

1

00:00:00,320 --> 00:00:02,560

Matthew Tejada: Well, hey everyone, thanks for joining.

2

00:00:02,560 --> 00:00:08,240

I see a lot of folks are still  
filtering into the room here.

3

00:00:08,240 --> 00:00:11,840

I want to thank everyone  
for joining us this afternoon.

4

00:00:11,840 --> 00:00:16,187

My name is Matthew Tejada, I'm the Director  
of the Office of Environmental Justice

5

00:00:16,211 --> 00:00:21,199

for the United States Environmental  
Protection Agency in Washington DC.

6

00:00:21,199 --> 00:00:24,668

We're very happy to be  
launching or I don't know,

7

00:00:24,692 --> 00:00:26,800

I don't know if launching  
is the right word.

8

00:00:26,824 --> 00:00:31,599

We had been doing community  
engagement calls quarterly,

9

00:00:31,599 --> 00:00:40,559

but with the huge increase in the need and  
demand for engagement on a number of topics,

10

00:00:40,559 --> 00:00:48,388

particularly Justice40, which is now in its  
full high gear of implementation at EPA,

11

00:00:48,512 --> 00:00:51,600

as well as across the  
rest of the government.

12

00:00:51,600 --> 00:00:56,960

We have stepped up those quarterly every  
three month community engagement calls

13

00:00:56,960 --> 00:01:03,359

to now be every two weeks, so this is the first of those every two week engagement calls.

14

00:01:03,359 --> 00:01:06,593

We'll not just be focusing on Justice40

15

00:01:06,617 --> 00:01:12,560

although it will be probably the thing we feature most in the coming weeks,

16

00:01:12,560 --> 00:01:21,200

but to have a much more regular ongoing conversation, feedback,

17

00:01:21,200 --> 00:01:29,600

report back as well, especially our community stakeholders across the United States.

18

00:01:29,600 --> 00:01:33,280

The community leaders,

environmental justice leaders

19

00:01:33,280 --> 00:01:37,759

are the reason why  
the EJ Program exists.

20

00:01:37,759 --> 00:01:42,320

They're the reason why I think a lot of  
folks would say Justice40 exists,

21

00:01:42,320 --> 00:01:48,320

so we very much want to make  
sure that we have regular opportunities

22

00:01:48,320 --> 00:01:51,600

for us to engage in dialogue.

23

00:01:51,600 --> 00:01:57,119

We especially do not want this to be  
just kind of limited engagements

24

00:01:57,119 --> 00:02:00,554

where we extract what we think

we need from community leaders

25

00:02:00,578 --> 00:02:04,093

and community members and  
their partners and colleagues,

26

00:02:04,117 --> 00:02:07,827

but to make sure that  
there's transparency in this process

27

00:02:07,851 --> 00:02:13,648

that there's accountability for what we  
hear making sure that it shows back up

28

00:02:13,672 --> 00:02:17,248

for folks in visible ways  
and in meaningful ways

29

00:02:17,272 --> 00:02:23,120

whether it's in Justice40 or other things  
that will be happening across EPA coming up,

30

00:02:23,120 --> 00:02:29,040

Including our Strategic Plan or the  
future of what our budget is going

31

00:02:29,040 --> 00:02:34,160

to provide us with in terms of the  
allocation of resources specific to EJ,

32

00:02:34,160 --> 00:02:38,480

so we're really glad to have  
everyone with us here today.

33

00:02:38,480 --> 00:02:41,611

I believe we're gonna go forward here

34

00:02:41,635 --> 00:02:46,720

and take care of a little bit  
of housekeeping, right Victoria?

35

00:02:48,000 --> 00:02:49,058

Victoria Robinson: Yes, correct, hi.

36

00:02:49,082 --> 00:02:52,240

This is Victoria Robinson EPA's

Office of Environmental Justice.

37

00:02:52,640 --> 00:02:57,728

Real quick housekeeping, we're asking that you join either by phone

38

00:02:57,752 --> 00:03:03,288

or by computer, but not both, it makes it easier for the connections to stay secure

39

00:03:03,312 --> 00:03:07,040

and for people to not have echoes when they when

40

00:03:07,040 --> 00:03:10,731

we actually ask to unmute their lines for them to be able to ask questions.

41

00:03:10,755 --> 00:03:13,813

Secondly you are on mute, everybody is on mute,

42

00:03:13,837 --> 00:03:17,507

so we do have a Q&A pod  
a question and answer pod

43

00:03:17,531 --> 00:03:19,789

that we're asking folks to click on

44

00:03:19,813 --> 00:03:23,628

and you can put in your  
questions or your comments in there.

45

00:03:23,652 --> 00:03:27,631

And we have pod monitors  
who will answer the questions,

46

00:03:27,655 --> 00:03:33,360

and let you know what's  
going on with those in the process.

47

00:03:33,360 --> 00:03:36,063

Please, note that the  
chat has been disabled,

48

00:03:36,087 --> 00:03:40,239

so that we can focus our  
attention on the Q&A file.

49

00:03:40,239 --> 00:03:43,599

If you are selected during  
our listening session in dialogue,

50

00:03:43,599 --> 00:03:46,640

we're asking you to limit your comment,  
your question or comment to one minute

51

00:03:46,640 --> 00:03:51,599

to allow time for individuals  
to respond appropriately.

52

00:03:51,599 --> 00:03:59,519

If you are on a phone only, we please note  
that you won't be able to see the Q&A pod,

53

00:03:59,519 --> 00:04:05,748

but you can participate in the-- when  
we do open the dialogue for questions,

54

00:04:05,772 --> 00:04:08,484

you'll be asked to press \*nine

55

00:04:08,508 --> 00:04:10,560

and that will raise your

hand so that we can see you

56

00:04:10,584 --> 00:04:14,400

and we can appropriately

unmute your call at that time.

57

00:04:14,400 --> 00:04:17,988

But unfortunately, if you're on the

phone you won't be able to see the slides

58

00:04:18,012 --> 00:04:22,000

and you won't be able to see

the answers that pop up into the Q&A pod.

59

00:04:22,000 --> 00:04:29,247

But they will be made available once

in a few days after the call is finished

60

00:04:29,271 --> 00:04:32,767

and processed for posting online.

61

00:04:32,791 --> 00:04:38,028

And the last one is

that we are recording

62

00:04:38,052 --> 00:04:42,432

and we are making a transcript which will

be available online in the near future,

63

00:04:42,456 --> 00:04:44,322

hopefully on our YouTube channel.

64

00:04:44,346 --> 00:04:47,759

Thank you very much.

65

00:04:48,400 --> 00:04:50,045

Matthew Tejada: Right, thanks Victoria.

66

00:04:50,069 --> 00:04:52,479

And I think with that we're

going to go to the next slide,

67

00:04:52,479 --> 00:04:57,280

and I believe the wonderful  
Jasmine Muriel Contreras

68

00:04:57,280 --> 00:05:00,880

is going to give us some extra  
instructions on Español.

69

00:05:00,880 --> 00:05:02,912

Jasmine Muriel Contreras:  
Hey, gracias Matthew.

70

00:05:02,936 --> 00:05:06,216

Hi, everybody if you  
prefer Spanish speaking.

71

00:05:06,440 --> 00:05:10,063

Si prefieres escuchar la  
información en Español,

72

00:05:10,087 --> 00:05:15,439

tenemos un botón abajo, a la

derecha, a lado donde está la mano,

73

00:05:15,463 --> 00:05:22,315

y a mano izquierda donde  
se puede salir del meeting,

74

00:05:22,550 --> 00:05:26,859

Como utilizarlo, si le das, si presionas  
ese botón donde está el globito,

75

00:05:26,983 --> 00:05:29,133

ahí te puedes cambiar al canal en Español.

76

00:05:29,234 --> 00:05:38,232

Ahí puedes también añadir preguntas en Español  
al Q&A para preguntas y respuestas,

77

00:05:38,257 --> 00:05:46,849

y el material también va a ser proveído  
en Español un día más adelantado, gracias.

78

00:05:46,873 --> 00:05:48,615

Thank you, Matthew.

79

00:05:48,639 --> 00:05:51,080

Matthew Tejada: Thank you,  
Jasmine, and huge thank you.

80

00:05:52,080 --> 00:05:57,148

We have some-- I don't even  
know what the right word is de facto

81

00:05:57,172 --> 00:06:01,919

or honorary I feel like members  
of the EJ Program at EPA,

82

00:06:01,919 --> 00:06:07,108

Jamara and Nestor and Jackie who is  
sometimes with us in some other meetings,

83

00:06:07,132 --> 00:06:12,682

we're doing so many meetings and we've  
got this great team of interpreters for us.

84

00:06:12,706 --> 00:06:15,440

So thank you all so much for

being with us here again today

85

00:06:15,440 --> 00:06:21,199

to make sure that we are accessible  
from whoever we can anticipate

86

00:06:21,199 --> 00:06:23,979

joining into our meetings.

87

00:06:24,003 --> 00:06:27,669

So with that, here's  
our agenda for today

88

00:06:27,693 --> 00:06:29,841

we're already in the middle  
of the welcome right now.

89

00:06:29,865 --> 00:06:37,360

I'm gonna give just a few kind of leadership  
updates here coming up-- oh not yet,

90

00:06:37,360 --> 00:06:41,890

and then we're gonna get into after a

few just kind of brief leadership updates.

91

00:06:41,914 --> 00:06:46,240

I'm gonna talk a little bit  
about how Justice40 is going,

92

00:06:46,240 --> 00:06:51,520

make sure people understand  
kind of the base of Justice40

93

00:06:51,520 --> 00:06:54,837

also want to emphasize  
that we're not holding this

94

00:06:54,861 --> 00:06:57,307

and we're not holding this session

95

00:06:57,331 --> 00:07:02,941

and we're not going to speak to the  
overall government approach to Justice40.

96

00:07:02,965 --> 00:07:07,868

That is very appropriately being led

out of the Council on Environmental Quality

97

00:07:07,892 --> 00:07:12,908

and the Office of Management Budget,  
which are part of the White House.

98

00:07:12,932 --> 00:07:16,307

This session today is  
just for us to talk about

99

00:07:16,331 --> 00:07:21,840

and get some feedback on  
how EPA is implementing Justice40.

100

00:07:21,840 --> 00:07:24,528

We're also going to have a few of our  
colleagues from some of the programs

101

00:07:24,552 --> 00:07:29,388

who are working on Justice40,  
our brownfields program, I think

102

00:07:29,412 --> 00:07:32,319

our Diesel Emission Reduction Act program

103

00:07:32,319 --> 00:07:35,948

maybe somebody from water, we're  
gonna have a few of our colleagues join in

104

00:07:36,072 --> 00:07:40,363

and just give you a little bit  
more kind of nuanced insight

105

00:07:40,387 --> 00:07:45,520

about how Justice40 is looking from their  
perspectives in the actual programs.

106

00:07:45,520 --> 00:07:48,879

That are working  
to implement Justice 40,

107

00:07:48,879 --> 00:07:52,187

and then we want to get to that  
listening session and dialogue.

108

00:07:52,211 --> 00:07:56,406

The focus for today is  
Justice40, but it's not exclusive,

109

00:07:56,430 --> 00:08:00,080

if folks have other issues,  
if there are other things happening,

110

00:08:00,080 --> 00:08:03,668

if you want to give us input on  
future of these meetings, like I said,

111

00:08:03,692 --> 00:08:06,479

we're going to do these  
every two weeks for a while.

112

00:08:06,479 --> 00:08:11,199

I think for at least the next and a half  
year or so and we'll see how they go.

113

00:08:11,199 --> 00:08:12,827

But we're going to  
be doing these a lot,

114

00:08:12,851 --> 00:08:16,960

so if you have some feedback on what you  
want to hear about in the future

115

00:08:16,960 --> 00:08:20,960

definitely want to take that on board  
and make sure that we craft agendas

116

00:08:20,960 --> 00:08:24,879

that are responsive to what y'all  
are giving us in these meetings,

117

00:08:24,879 --> 00:08:26,728

talk about some of those  
other engagement opportunities

118

00:08:26,752 --> 00:08:30,101

that we're going to have  
and then try to close us out,

119

00:08:30,125 --> 00:08:32,237

right at 4 o'clock eastern time.

120

00:08:32,261 --> 00:08:34,348

I believe we have this  
for two hours today.

121

00:08:34,372 --> 00:08:38,000

So with that, let's  
let's go forward Victoria.

122

00:08:38,000 --> 00:08:42,640

So again just a few quick  
leadership updates for folks,

123

00:08:42,640 --> 00:08:47,839

obviously, we'll get to Justice40  
in a minute there's still a ton of

124

00:08:47,839 --> 00:08:51,200

environmental justice activity at EPA,

125

00:08:51,200 --> 00:08:57,120

it has been unprecedented and  
unprecedented level of activity on EJ

126

00:08:57,120 --> 00:08:59,628

for quite some time since this  
administration came in

127

00:08:59,652 --> 00:09:04,399

and it just continues  
to ramp upwards

128

00:09:04,399 --> 00:09:07,815

that includes, I hope a lot  
of folks were able to join,

129

00:09:07,839 --> 00:09:11,839

my gosh, was it last week or two  
weeks ago? Two weeks ago, I think.

130

00:09:11,839 --> 00:09:16,160

The National Environmental Justice  
Advisory Council held a public meeting

131

00:09:16,160 --> 00:09:21,040

a two-day public meeting at which  
we had an unprecedented showing

132

00:09:21,040 --> 00:09:23,440

from the leadership of EPA.

133

00:09:23,440 --> 00:09:26,308

The Deputy Administrator Janet McCabe

134

00:09:26,332 --> 00:09:31,231

and basically every confirmed  
or acting assistant administrator

135

00:09:31,255 --> 00:09:36,408

and Vicki Arroyo, our associate  
Administrator for the Office of Policy,

136

00:09:36,432 --> 00:09:42,880

and some other senior political folks joined  
the NEJAC for almost an entire afternoon

137

00:09:42,880 --> 00:09:47,119

to give a bunch of updates on  
exactly what was happening

138

00:09:47,119 --> 00:09:53,265

across some really priority issues across  
all of the policies and programs of EPA.

139

00:09:53,289 --> 00:09:59,839

We will be kind of encapsulating that  
feedback in a written response for the NEJAC.

140

00:09:59,839 --> 00:10:05,839

Our goal at EPA is to try to have that  
written response done by the end of September,

141

00:10:05,839 --> 00:10:09,328

so that'll be a nice written document  
again that we'll put out publicly,

142

00:10:09,552 --> 00:10:13,933

and once it goes to NEJAC,  
we'll pop it out publicly as well,

143

00:10:13,957 --> 00:10:17,760

so that folks can see kind of  
a written update of everything

144

00:10:17,760 --> 00:10:20,918

that's being reported

out on at present.

145

00:10:20,942 --> 00:10:28,560

There's obviously also a lot of activity

on potential budgets going forward,

146

00:10:28,560 --> 00:10:30,815

so again, we can't

speak a lot to that,

147

00:10:30,839 --> 00:10:34,168

a lot of that is being handled

either at the White House

148

00:10:34,192 --> 00:10:38,560

or the people that actually fund

the budget over on Capitol Hill.

149

00:10:38,560 --> 00:10:42,240

But I know that there's a lot of

interest in activity whether it is,

150

00:10:42,240 --> 00:10:46,248

what's happening

with American Jobs Plan

151

00:10:46,272 --> 00:10:49,656

or the follow-up

potential reconciliation bill,

152

00:10:49,680 --> 00:10:53,476

that's kind of right there

with the American Jobs Plan,

153

00:10:53,500 --> 00:10:57,760

and then also looking ahead

to the next fiscal year budget,

154

00:10:57,760 --> 00:11:02,399

fiscal year 22, which hopefully

will start on October 1st,

155

00:11:02,399 --> 00:11:04,959

there's there's a lot

happening around that.

156

00:11:04,959 --> 00:11:07,987

We don't really know any  
more than folks in the public do,

157

00:11:08,011 --> 00:11:13,680

but we're excited and hopeful  
that we'll see a new era of resources

158

00:11:13,680 --> 00:11:17,360

for really furthering  
environmental justice at EPA,

159

00:11:17,360 --> 00:11:19,388

as well as hopefully at other places.

160

00:11:19,412 --> 00:11:23,600

But also to our topic here  
in a little bit with Justice40,

161

00:11:23,600 --> 00:11:26,988

even for the resources

that aren't specified directly

162

00:11:27,012 --> 00:11:33,600

for the environmental justice  
program that will see a lot more attention

163

00:11:33,600 --> 00:11:37,888

to the allocation of any resources  
to communities with EJ concerns

164

00:11:37,912 --> 00:11:45,959

to disadvantaged communities as they  
were described in Executive Order 14008.

165

00:11:46,000 --> 00:11:51,779

We'll also this fall, we're making  
progress on the next Strategic Plan for EPA,

166

00:11:51,879 --> 00:11:56,923

we do multi-year strategic  
plans for the entire agency,

167

00:11:56,947 --> 00:12:03,519

typically in the past, EPA strategic plans  
focused on the major national programs

168

00:12:03,519 --> 00:12:06,800

like air and water  
and contamination,

169

00:12:06,800 --> 00:12:10,097

and then the EJ Strategic  
Plan was a separate document,

170

00:12:10,121 --> 00:12:12,699

it was a separate strategic plan.

171

00:12:12,723 --> 00:12:19,267

This administration as part of Administrator  
Regan's call to center the mission

172

00:12:19,291 --> 00:12:21,920

of the agency on  
environmental justice,

173

00:12:21,920 --> 00:12:28,463

has a central goal in the middle of the Strategic Plan on environmental justice and civil rights.

174

00:12:28,487 --> 00:12:33,536

So we're currently still hammering away on kind of the first draft of that,

175

00:12:33,560 --> 00:12:37,577

but that'll be coming out I believe for some public engagement this fall.

176

00:12:37,601 --> 00:12:40,828

So I'm sure we'll probably use one of these calls,

177

00:12:40,852 --> 00:12:46,448

once that document comes out to engage folks on that Strategic Plan

178

00:12:46,472 --> 00:12:49,360

and what sort of elements are in there so we can kind of describe that

179

00:12:49,360 --> 00:12:54,320

and get some feedback on it that's part of  
why having these calls every two weeks

180

00:12:54,320 --> 00:12:56,800

I think is a good idea especially now,

181

00:12:56,800 --> 00:13:01,519

we know that there's a lot of need for  
information for feedback.

182

00:13:01,519 --> 00:13:06,244

So this hopefully gives us a more organized  
way of doing a lot of that engagement

183

00:13:06,268 --> 00:13:11,920

of hearing from folks on the ground in  
communities across the United States.

184

00:13:11,920 --> 00:13:15,519

And hopefully also  
helps to reduce the burden,

185

00:13:15,519 --> 00:13:19,167

we all appreciate that there's a huge  
burden on community members out there,

186

00:13:19,191 --> 00:13:25,440

so many opportunities, so many  
demands for feedback from folks.

187

00:13:25,440 --> 00:13:28,103

We want to try to give  
more kind of consistent

188

00:13:28,127 --> 00:13:31,980

and unified opportunities to  
hear from community leaders

189

00:13:32,004 --> 00:13:35,680

and community members  
on environmental justice priorities.

190

00:13:35,680 --> 00:13:42,639

So with that let's go ahead and talk  
a little bit specifically about Justice40.

191

00:13:43,360 --> 00:13:50,568

So it's an interagency initiative  
and it is part of Executive Order 14008,

192

00:13:50,592 --> 00:13:54,176

which I mentioned that's the executive  
order on tackling the climate crisis

193

00:13:54,200 --> 00:13:55,497

at home and abroad.

194

00:13:55,521 --> 00:14:00,880

That executive order even  
though it says climate in the title

195

00:14:00,880 --> 00:14:06,800

about the last third of that executive  
order is all about environmental justice.

196

00:14:06,800 --> 00:14:12,320

Actually changes some of the original  
Executive Order on EJ 12898

197

00:14:12,320 --> 00:14:17,643

for instance it took the interagency  
working group that used to be run by EPA

198

00:14:17,667 --> 00:14:22,188

and elevated that to the CEQ as well,  
the Council on Environmental Quality

199

00:14:22,312 --> 00:14:25,760

and changed it into  
the Interagency Council.

200

00:14:25,760 --> 00:14:30,420

So that Interagency Council has really  
been focused on coming up with the details

201

00:14:30,444 --> 00:14:31,456

of Justice40.

202

00:14:31,480 --> 00:14:35,360

If you go forward one  
more Victoria, please.

203

00:14:35,360 --> 00:14:41,360

And just to make sure that people understand  
Justice40 is just one of a number of things

204

00:14:41,360 --> 00:14:46,748

that the president and vice president as well  
as Administrator Regan have really laid out

205

00:14:46,772 --> 00:14:51,041

to advance both equity  
and justice, not just at EPA,

206

00:14:51,065 --> 00:14:56,320

but across the entire government and that's  
another really important thing to understand.

207

00:14:56,320 --> 00:15:01,633

There's been immediately  
in this administration a paradigm shift,

208

00:15:01,657 --> 00:15:06,948

because previously a lot of the  
efforts to advance environmental justice

209

00:15:06,972 --> 00:15:10,298

across EPA or across the federal  
government, really all of the efforts

210

00:15:10,322 --> 00:15:14,919

to advance environmental justice across  
the federal government landed on EPA,

211

00:15:14,943 --> 00:15:21,500

and that put EPA just in the ecosystem of the  
federal government of the executive branch,

212

00:15:21,524 --> 00:15:25,629

in a weird place where you don't  
usually put like one agency in charge

213

00:15:25,653 --> 00:15:28,720

of what other agencies  
are supposed to be doing,

214

00:15:28,720 --> 00:15:33,335

so but there was also a recognition

I think by this administration

215

00:15:33,359 --> 00:15:37,927

that to really make progress on issues that  
are so important such as equity and justice,

216

00:15:37,951 --> 00:15:40,880

you need in all of  
government approach to it,

217

00:15:40,880 --> 00:15:47,362

you need every agency whether it's HUD dealing  
with housing or DOT and transportation,

218

00:15:47,386 --> 00:15:54,320

energy, agriculture, public lands, fish and  
wildlife, everybody needs to be involved

219

00:15:54,320 --> 00:15:57,120

as equally in environmental justice.

220

00:15:57,120 --> 00:15:59,920

And you're seeing that show up

221

00:15:59,920 --> 00:16:04,640

whether it's in Executive Order  
14008, Executive Order 13985,

222

00:16:04,664 --> 00:16:09,839

which the president actually signed  
on his first day in office, on January 20th.

223

00:16:09,839 --> 00:16:16,480

American Rescue Plan funding, the president's  
budget that is with congress currently,

224

00:16:16,480 --> 00:16:20,959

what I'm hopeful to see in both the  
American Jobs Plan and anything else

225

00:16:20,959 --> 00:16:25,707

that happens congressionally this  
summer and fall, just a lot of activity.

226

00:16:25,731 --> 00:16:29,468

So this is just one element, but

this is a really important element.

227

00:16:29,492 --> 00:16:31,962

So we can go one  
more slide forward.

228

00:16:31,986 --> 00:16:32,832

This is important--

229

00:16:32,856 --> 00:16:35,748

Victoria Robinson: Before I do that can we  
just make sure everybody has muted their lines

230

00:16:35,772 --> 00:16:40,880

we've been hearing somebody in the  
background, okay, folks?

231

00:16:40,880 --> 00:16:45,440

Okay, thank you, whoever's  
got their mic open please mute.

232

00:16:45,440 --> 00:16:48,480

Matthew Tejada: Okay, I'm

not hearing it, but thank you.

233

00:16:48,480 --> 00:16:53,668

Yeah, so Justice40, what is Justice40?

234

00:16:53,692 --> 00:17:01,680

So Justice40 has a very simple idea  
that has a lot of really hard ideas

235

00:17:01,680 --> 00:17:03,440

kind of baked into it.

236

00:17:03,440 --> 00:17:09,508

So Justice40 though is the idea that disadvantaged  
communities or communities with EJ concerns,

237

00:17:09,532 --> 00:17:16,067

in order to achieve equity and justice, they  
should be receiving more of the funding

238

00:17:16,091 --> 00:17:20,640

and of the benefit of government  
activities and programs.

239

00:17:20,640 --> 00:17:25,280

So what it mandates is that 40%  
of the overall benefits

240

00:17:25,280 --> 00:17:30,799

of certain federal programs  
flow to disadvantaged communities.

241

00:17:30,799 --> 00:17:36,640

So right now that is what every federal  
agency is working to figure out,

242

00:17:36,640 --> 00:17:41,919

what are the programs that are going to  
be implicated in this Justice40 initiative,

243

00:17:41,919 --> 00:17:47,440

how do we define and calculate the  
benefits from those programs,

244

00:17:47,440 --> 00:17:50,908

what are the communities that

will be disadvantaged communities

245

00:17:50,932 --> 00:17:56,280

that really receive the benefit of  
those programs and of those resources.

246

00:17:56,304 --> 00:18:02,708

And it really focuses in on, since it is an  
executive order that's basically on climate change,

247

00:18:02,732 --> 00:18:08,000

it's focusing a lot about climate  
and climate adaptation and climate change,

248

00:18:08,000 --> 00:18:13,440

but it's not exclusive to that, it also  
looks at things like legacy pollution,

249

00:18:13,440 --> 00:18:17,120

water infrastructure,  
workforce development,

250

00:18:17,120 --> 00:18:20,640

things that of course if you work in the  
EJ space or the climate justice space,

251

00:18:20,640 --> 00:18:23,919

you know that all of these  
things are interconnected.

252

00:18:23,919 --> 00:18:31,120

So it's not just climate focused, but that  
is really part of the emphasis for it.

253

00:18:31,120 --> 00:18:37,008

So right now where all of the federal agencies  
are at is that everyone had a deadline

254

00:18:37,032 --> 00:18:43,440

of within 60 days, that 60 day deadline,  
is actually coming up on September 17th

255

00:18:43,440 --> 00:18:47,670

that we're gonna have to give  
some information back to CEQ

256

00:18:47,694 --> 00:18:49,555

and back to the White House.

257

00:18:49,579 --> 00:18:53,756

The Director of OMB and the National  
Climate Advisor, it's like a triumvirate,

258

00:18:53,780 --> 00:18:56,753

we're gonna have to give them  
a bunch of information back,

259

00:18:56,777 --> 00:19:01,440

and if we go to the next slide, what  
we're gonna have to give back to them

260

00:19:01,440 --> 00:19:04,480

is a couple pieces of information.

261

00:19:04,480 --> 00:19:11,440

And it's important to understand that in  
Justice40 there's 2 parallel tracks

262

00:19:11,440 --> 00:19:14,799

but with trains that are  
moving at different speeds.

263

00:19:14,799 --> 00:19:17,566

One of those tracks is a pilot program.

264

00:19:17,590 --> 00:19:22,400

So a number of programs across the  
federal government, not just at EPA,

265

00:19:22,400 --> 00:19:26,480

but across the federal government were  
immediately pegged as being part of

266

00:19:26,480 --> 00:19:28,080

this pilot program.

267

00:19:28,080 --> 00:19:33,280

At EPA those programs are Reducing lead  
and Drinking Water program,

268

00:19:33,280 --> 00:19:39,168

our Diesel Emission Reduction Act Rebate

program, the Superfund Remedial program

269

00:19:39,192 --> 00:19:42,559

and the Brownfields Redevelopment program,

270

00:19:42,559 --> 00:19:45,376

and then both of our

state revolving funds.

271

00:19:45,400 --> 00:19:49,039

These are the two big, big funds I

mean two of the biggest pots of money

272

00:19:49,039 --> 00:19:54,307

that EPA gets for water

infrastructure, one for clean water,

273

00:19:54,331 --> 00:19:57,586

which is basically,

waste water infrastructure,

274

00:19:57,610 --> 00:19:59,713

and then one for drinking water.

275

00:19:59,737 --> 00:20:03,102

So those are the six  
programs that are in the pilot.

276

00:20:03,126 --> 00:20:07,520

They are already figuring out  
how to implement Justice40,

277

00:20:07,520 --> 00:20:13,280

what changes they can contemplate to  
actually make sure that they are increasing.

278

00:20:13,280 --> 00:20:18,559

The level of benefit that flows  
to disadvantaged communities

279

00:20:18,559 --> 00:20:24,080

through the implementation of their programs.

280

00:20:24,080 --> 00:20:27,565

We've already passed the first  
deadline in Justice40,

281

00:20:27,589 --> 00:20:32,626

it came last month where everybody, everyone  
across the federal government, including EPA.

282

00:20:32,650 --> 00:20:36,480

We all had to come up with a partner  
and stakeholder engagement plan.

283

00:20:36,480 --> 00:20:41,308

What we chose to do at EPA  
and what this call as a result of

284

00:20:41,332 --> 00:20:45,868

is that we wanted to have a national  
engagement plan for Justice40.

285

00:20:45,892 --> 00:20:48,850

We didn't want all of the  
programs out there on their own,

286

00:20:48,874 --> 00:20:54,000

trying to talk to all of you individually and

trying to talk to other folks individually.

287

00:20:54,000 --> 00:20:57,980

If we could bring it all together-- there's  
still going to be plenty of opportunities

288

00:20:58,004 --> 00:21:01,528

like there's going to be folks that  
in the water infrastructure world

289

00:21:01,552 --> 00:21:04,336

that they just want to talk to  
the water infrastructure folks,

290

00:21:04,360 --> 00:21:07,792

they're not interested in brownfields,  
they're not interested in DERA.

291

00:21:07,816 --> 00:21:10,779

So there's still going to be a  
lot of very unique engagements

292

00:21:10,803 --> 00:21:13,200

that happen as we implement this,

293

00:21:13,200 --> 00:21:18,347

but broadly like everyone wants to talk to  
EJ community leaders and community members.

294

00:21:18,371 --> 00:21:21,261

So any of the opportunities  
that we had to do that nationally,

295

00:21:21,285 --> 00:21:22,801

that's why we're having this call,

296

00:21:22,825 --> 00:21:25,428

that's why we'll have some other  
stuff that happens like with ECOS,

297

00:21:25,452 --> 00:21:28,799

our Environmental Council of States.

298

00:21:28,799 --> 00:21:33,679

So we've already done that, we've crafted  
the plan, we're now implementing that plan.

299

00:21:33,679 --> 00:21:38,240

These six pilots are implementing  
though they're already figuring out

300

00:21:38,240 --> 00:21:42,960

how can they actually meet that goal  
or approach that goal of 40%

301

00:21:42,960 --> 00:21:46,188

of their resources flowing to  
disadvantaged communities

302

00:21:46,212 --> 00:21:49,200

or benefiting disadvantaged communities.

303

00:21:49,200 --> 00:21:52,608

And then the one of the next things  
that we've got to come up with is

304

00:21:52,632 --> 00:21:55,651

how do we actually calculate benefits

305

00:21:55,675 --> 00:21:58,701

which is a big task because

we're talking about--

306

00:21:58,725 --> 00:22:03,378

potentially, we're talking about lots

of dollars, billions of actual dollars,

307

00:22:03,402 --> 00:22:08,320

we're also talking about

the effort of federal employees,

308

00:22:08,320 --> 00:22:12,880

we're talking about staff hours, we're

talking about resources that accrue,

309

00:22:12,880 --> 00:22:15,115

we're talking about protection that accrues.

310

00:22:15,139 --> 00:22:19,347

So there's going to be a lot of work

coming up on how to calculate benefits,

311

00:22:19,371 --> 00:22:22,171

and again that's why we wanted  
to have regular engagements,

312

00:22:22,195 --> 00:22:26,559

because as we make progress  
on figuring these things out,

313

00:22:26,559 --> 00:22:29,255

we don't want to do that  
in a vacuum across EPA,

314

00:22:29,279 --> 00:22:31,268

we want to share as  
much as we can about.

315

00:22:31,292 --> 00:22:34,799

"Well, this is what we're  
thinking of, this is where we're at here"

316

00:22:34,799 --> 00:22:38,508

and get feedback constantly  
as we're moving through this

317

00:22:38,532 --> 00:22:46,268

to make sure that we're really on point  
for implementing this Justice40 initiative

318

00:22:46,292 --> 00:22:48,080

as well as we can.

319

00:22:48,080 --> 00:22:51,548

And then if we go to the next slide,  
so that's one of the parallel tracks.

320

00:22:51,572 --> 00:22:54,794

That's the one that's  
already streaking forward

321

00:22:54,818 --> 00:22:56,597

because it's the pilot program,

322

00:22:56,621 --> 00:23:02,028

there's only six, EPA  
programs are implicated in that pilot.

323

00:23:02,052 --> 00:23:07,568

On the other parallel track not  
moving quite so quickly forward

324

00:23:07,592 --> 00:23:11,083

but still really fast especially  
in government time.

325

00:23:11,107 --> 00:23:15,513

So again we have the 30-day, we've  
already done the national engagement plan.

326

00:23:15,537 --> 00:23:19,760

The other thing that we have  
to get done by September 17th

327

00:23:19,760 --> 00:23:25,520

is we have to look across all of the  
other of hundreds of programs at EPA

328

00:23:25,520 --> 00:23:30,080

and figure out which of those programs  
also need to play in this Justice40.

329

00:23:30,080 --> 00:23:33,120

The pilots are out there  
trying to figure it out

330

00:23:33,120 --> 00:23:35,488

while we also figure out  
what are some other programs

331

00:23:35,512 --> 00:23:38,326

that are going to have to  
kind of come in behind this pilot

332

00:23:38,350 --> 00:23:41,136

and do the same  
sort of implementation

333

00:23:41,160 --> 00:23:46,240

and cut and benefit  
calculation and all these other things.

334

00:23:46,240 --> 00:23:51,788

So that's what we owe up as well to the Council

on Environmental Quality by September 17th.

335

00:23:51,812 --> 00:23:55,440

The implementation plans  
for the pilot programs

336

00:23:55,440 --> 00:23:58,068

plus information on a  
bunch of other programs

337

00:23:58,092 --> 00:24:01,679

that we think are  
implicated in this initiative.

338

00:24:01,679 --> 00:24:04,588

And then 150 days  
so like three months,

339

00:24:04,612 --> 00:24:09,679

so what is it September, October,  
November, so right before Christmas.

340

00:24:09,679 --> 00:24:12,360

I think if I'm right, right before Christmas.

341

00:24:12,384 --> 00:24:15,564

We're then gonna have  
to turn in this green box,

342

00:24:15,588 --> 00:24:19,814

which is the methodology we're  
going to use or the methodologies,

343

00:24:19,838 --> 00:24:23,268

we're going to use for  
calculating on the benefits

344

00:24:23,292 --> 00:24:25,988

that we think accrue from  
these different programs

345

00:24:26,012 --> 00:24:28,708

that are implicated in Justice40.

346

00:24:28,732 --> 00:24:31,500

So if we'll go forward Victoria.

347

00:24:31,524 --> 00:24:36,308

So we're going to do  
these engagements bi-weekly,

348

00:24:36,332 --> 00:24:42,185

we will put out as quickly  
as we can any agendas

349

00:24:42,209 --> 00:24:46,400

or if we're going to have special  
topics or if we're going to focus,

350

00:24:46,400 --> 00:24:53,520

one of these engagements we might  
really focus in on the brownfields program.

351

00:24:53,520 --> 00:24:59,440

The next one after that we might really focus  
in on surface water protection programs

352

00:24:59,440 --> 00:25:00,504

or something like that.

353

00:25:00,528 --> 00:25:05,120

So we want to try as much as we can, as quickly as we can organize these things.

354

00:25:05,120 --> 00:25:10,480

we want to try to make sure that there's information out there.

355

00:25:10,480 --> 00:25:13,707

Everyone is welcome to come to all of these if you want to,

356

00:25:13,731 --> 00:25:19,055

but we want to try to as much as we can to put out information

357

00:25:19,079 --> 00:25:22,320

about what specifically we're going to cover in each one.

358

00:25:22,320 --> 00:25:24,871

I don't know if that's

always going to be possible,

359

00:25:24,895 --> 00:25:27,440

because we're doing  
these every two weeks.

360

00:25:27,464 --> 00:25:31,734

I strongly encourage everyone  
though to sign up for our email listserv,

361

00:25:31,758 --> 00:25:34,587

I think we're going to have  
information for that later on.

362

00:25:34,611 --> 00:25:46,240

We also have a Twitter account now, it's  
@EPAEnvJustice, that's @EPAEnvJustice

363

00:25:46,264 --> 00:25:51,028

and that will be-- that might be the  
best way to keep in the flow of things

364

00:25:51,052 --> 00:25:52,799

that happen really quickly.

365

00:25:52,799 --> 00:25:55,428

So that we can share out any  
information about the upcoming call

366

00:25:55,452 --> 00:26:00,080

and what it might focus on  
or what we want to hear about.

367

00:26:00,080 --> 00:26:03,607

And again, this is not just the EJ  
program at EPA talking to you all

368

00:26:03,631 --> 00:26:07,248

this is the national  
engagement effort of EPA.

369

00:26:07,272 --> 00:26:11,688

So we're going to have other  
colleagues, other programs coming into this

370

00:26:11,712 --> 00:26:13,745

to share more  
specific information

371

00:26:13,769 --> 00:26:18,480

and get more specific  
feedback from you all

372

00:26:18,480 --> 00:26:24,559

about this Justice40 thing as we as  
we work through the implementation of it.

373

00:26:24,559 --> 00:26:28,128

I think I covered everything there didn't,  
yeah, Victoria went forward so I did.

374

00:26:28,152 --> 00:26:32,720

So here I'm going to turn it over to  
some of our colleagues from the programs

375

00:26:32,720 --> 00:26:37,028

and if you would, if you notice  
I'm trying to speak very measured

376

00:26:37,052 --> 00:26:41,360

and at a good pace  
for our interpreters.

377

00:26:41,360 --> 00:26:47,279

So Elyse I believe is up next, but we  
have several others so Elyse Sutkus.

378

00:26:47,279 --> 00:26:52,039

If you would go ahead  
and talk about brownfields.

379

00:26:53,279 --> 00:26:54,827

Elyse Sutkus: Hi, can everyone hear me?

380

00:26:54,951 --> 00:26:55,659

Matthew Tejada: Yep.

381

00:26:56,159 --> 00:26:57,360

Elyse Sutkus: Perfect.

382

00:26:57,360 --> 00:27:00,270

So hi everyone, my name is Elyse Sutkus,

383

00:27:00,294 --> 00:27:05,152

and I work in EPA's Office of  
Brownfields and Land Revitalization

384

00:27:05,176 --> 00:27:08,559

at EPA Headquarters,  
in Washington DC.

385

00:27:08,559 --> 00:27:14,608

So like Matt said, I'll give you a brief  
overview of EPA's brownfields program

386

00:27:14,632 --> 00:27:18,240

that is included in the Justice40 pilot.

387

00:27:18,240 --> 00:27:24,080

Before getting started I did want to  
clarify the legal definition of a brownfield.

388

00:27:24,080 --> 00:27:28,267

So a brownfield is a property, the  
expansion, redevelopment,

389

00:27:28,291 --> 00:27:34,559

or reuse of which may become complicated  
by the presence or potential presence

390

00:27:34,559 --> 00:27:39,520

of a hazardous substance,  
pollutant, or contaminant.

391

00:27:40,320 --> 00:27:44,320

So the part of our program that is  
included in the Justice40 pilot,

392

00:27:44,320 --> 00:27:47,679

includes our competitive  
brownfields grants.

393

00:27:47,679 --> 00:27:50,479

These grant opportunities  
are offered annually,

394

00:27:50,503 --> 00:27:54,728

with the exception of the multi-purpose

and Revolving Loan Fund grants,

395

00:27:54,752 --> 00:27:57,407

which are offered on  
an alternating basis,

396

00:27:57,431 --> 00:28:00,480

so every other year they switch off.

397

00:28:00,480 --> 00:28:04,248

I'll give a bit more detail  
about each grant type

398

00:28:04,272 --> 00:28:10,720

and so our assessment grants provide  
funding for brownfield inventories, planning,

399

00:28:10,720 --> 00:28:14,480

environmental assessments,  
and community outreach.

400

00:28:14,480 --> 00:28:20,278

Cleanup grants provide funding to carry

out cleanup activities at brownfield sites

401

00:28:20,302 --> 00:28:23,360

that are owned by the applicant.

402

00:28:23,360 --> 00:28:26,888

Multi-purpose grants provide funding to a range of eligible assessment

403

00:28:26,912 --> 00:28:33,679

and cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites in a target area.

404

00:28:33,679 --> 00:28:38,320

So that's a combination of assessment and cleanup.

405

00:28:38,320 --> 00:28:41,908

The Revolving Loan Fund grants provide funding to capitalize loans

406

00:28:41,932 --> 00:28:46,000

that are used to clean

up brownfield sites.

407

00:28:46,000 --> 00:28:50,399

And job training grants provide  
environmental training for residents

408

00:28:50,399 --> 00:28:54,960

that are impacted by brownfield  
sites in their communities.

409

00:28:54,960 --> 00:29:01,088

So we really only have a few minutes  
today, I encourage you to visit our website

410

00:29:01,112 --> 00:29:05,520

to find out more about the Brownfields  
and Land Revitalization program.

411

00:29:05,520 --> 00:29:08,807

You can also find more details  
on these grant opportunities

412

00:29:08,831 --> 00:29:12,000

such as how  
communities can apply,

413

00:29:12,000 --> 00:29:19,760

and what activities are eligible for funding  
so that link provided is [epa.gov/brownfields](http://epa.gov/brownfields).

414

00:29:19,760 --> 00:29:22,640

Next slide, please.

415

00:29:23,679 --> 00:29:29,547

So next, I'll give a brief overview of the  
brownfields and land revitalization programs

416

00:29:29,571 --> 00:29:33,200

approach for meeting the  
Justice40 initiative.

417

00:29:33,200 --> 00:29:39,108

So over this summer, the program has been  
analyzing our most recent grant competitions

418

00:29:39,132 --> 00:29:45,633

from the fiscal year 21 to identify applicants  
that are serving disadvantaged communities

419

00:29:45,657 --> 00:29:49,760

that were selected to  
receive brownfields grants.

420

00:29:49,760 --> 00:29:56,159

The program has also made changes to the  
fiscal year 2022 brownfields assessment,

421

00:29:56,159 --> 00:30:02,640

Revolving Loan Fund, and cleanup grant guidelines  
that will be coming out later this fall

422

00:30:02,640 --> 00:30:07,600

to reflect Justice40 goals and improve  
our process for tracking benefits

423

00:30:07,600 --> 00:30:10,960

in disadvantaged communities in the future.

424

00:30:10,960 --> 00:30:15,917

The program is also engaging stakeholders  
both through EPA's National EJ Community

425

00:30:15,941 --> 00:30:18,960

Engagement Call series  
that we're on right now,

426

00:30:18,960 --> 00:30:24,080

as well as in upcoming activities  
with brownfield stakeholders.

427

00:30:24,080 --> 00:30:27,607

So in terms of the program's  
engagement and outreach objectives,

428

00:30:27,631 --> 00:30:32,992

the program's goals are to find out  
if Justice40 stakeholders are aware

429

00:30:33,016 --> 00:30:35,541

of brownfield sites in their communities,

430

00:30:35,565 --> 00:30:41,440

and if they're aware of EPA brownfields grant opportunities that I've discussed today.

431

00:30:41,440 --> 00:30:45,588

Another goal is to describe the direct benefits of the brownfields program

432

00:30:45,612 --> 00:30:48,559

and find out from stakeholders,

433

00:30:48,559 --> 00:30:52,960

if they experience any additional benefits from the program,

434

00:30:52,960 --> 00:30:58,559

and the goal is that our stakeholder engagement will help inform the program

435

00:30:58,559 --> 00:31:04,279

how benefits can be maximized in disadvantaged communities.

436

00:31:05,200 --> 00:31:11,679

And we'll have more on  
the next column, thank you.

437

00:31:15,360 --> 00:31:16,262

Matthew Tejada: Sorry guys.

438

00:31:16,386 --> 00:31:19,699

Victoria's mouse cursor on the  
screen and I thought it was mine

439

00:31:19,723 --> 00:31:21,500

and I didn't know why it wasn't moving.

440

00:31:21,600 --> 00:31:24,240

Thank you so much, Elyse.

441

00:31:24,240 --> 00:31:30,080

I think our next program up is the DERA program  
the Diesel Emission Reduction Act program

442

00:31:30,080 --> 00:31:34,788

and I don't see boy who in this  
list is that Christina.

443

00:31:34,812 --> 00:31:35,838

Christine Kester: This is Cristine--

444

00:31:35,962 --> 00:31:39,019

Matthew Tejada: Cristina, yep, there  
you go, thank you Christina go for it.

445

00:31:39,043 --> 00:31:39,740

Christine Kester: Yeah thanks, Matt.

446

00:31:39,840 --> 00:31:41,828

So hi everyone, my  
name is Christine Kester.

447

00:31:41,852 --> 00:31:46,559

I'm with the Diesel Emissions  
Reduction Act, which we call DERA program.

448

00:31:46,559 --> 00:31:53,427

DERA funding provides replacements and  
retrofits of older diesel engines and equipment.

449

00:31:53,451 --> 00:31:58,468

So this is the older equipment that  
predates EPA's more stringent standards,

450

00:31:58,492 --> 00:32:03,088

so they have higher emissions of various  
pollutants such as particulate matter and NAAQS.

451

00:32:03,112 --> 00:32:06,365

So our funding goes to  
projects to replace those vehicles

452

00:32:06,389 --> 00:32:08,411

and get those vehicles off the road.

453

00:32:08,436 --> 00:32:12,957

The DERA funding provides a public  
health benefit by reducing those emissions

454

00:32:12,981 --> 00:32:18,240

and a climate benefit because we do  
fund zero emission technologies as well.

455

00:32:18,240 --> 00:32:22,388

We can target our funding to the greatest need into areas of the greatest need.

456

00:32:22,412 --> 00:32:24,491

We have a variety of funding programs

457

00:32:24,515 --> 00:32:27,600

through DERA, we have a national competitive grants,

458

00:32:27,600 --> 00:32:31,828

we have competitive grants for tribal and insular area applicants,

459

00:32:31,852 --> 00:32:36,537

and we have a state program that is done via a formula allocation

460

00:32:36,661 --> 00:32:43,039

and we have a school bus rebate program where we provide rebates for school bus replacements.

461

00:32:43,039 --> 00:32:47,120

So DERA funding is generally targeted to areas with air quality challenges

462

00:32:47,120 --> 00:32:50,807

such as those in non-attainment for PM and ozone,

463

00:32:50,831 --> 00:32:56,867

and funding is prioritized in the grant program for projects that benefit communities

464

00:32:56,891 --> 00:32:58,791

with environmental justice concerns.

465

00:32:58,815 --> 00:33:02,399

And also have a community engagement element

466

00:33:02,399 --> 00:33:08,159

to continue emissions reductions after the project period has concluded.

467

00:33:08,159 --> 00:33:11,063

So in addition to the  
cleaner technologies,

468

00:33:11,087 --> 00:33:14,879

we also work to build the  
capacity of prospective grantees

469

00:33:14,903 --> 00:33:18,720

and promote additional  
emissions reductions

470

00:33:18,720 --> 00:33:21,232

that happen outside of  
the scope of the funding.

471

00:33:21,256 --> 00:33:24,720

We work with stakeholders  
including community organizations

472

00:33:24,720 --> 00:33:30,000

both through the DERA program and a

related program called the Ports Initiative,

473

00:33:30,000 --> 00:33:35,398

which focuses on providing tools  
and assistance to clean up air at ports,

474

00:33:35,422 --> 00:33:38,888

through cleaner technologies,  
clean air planning practices,

475

00:33:38,912 --> 00:33:43,519

such as emissions inventories  
and community engagement strategies.

476

00:33:43,519 --> 00:33:47,159

Next slide, please.

477

00:33:52,399 --> 00:33:57,440

So the approach we're taking for the  
DERA Program for Justice40 is

478

00:33:57,440 --> 00:34:01,753

anytime we open up one of our funding

programs whether it be the grant program

479

00:34:01,877 --> 00:34:03,171

or the rebate program,

480

00:34:03,195 --> 00:34:08,280

we figure out what our priorities are  
and we will be considering Justice40 goals

481

00:34:08,304 --> 00:34:13,107

and making sure that the DERA benefits  
are reaching underserved communities

482

00:34:13,131 --> 00:34:16,388

and what we would like from  
these in this engagement process

483

00:34:16,412 --> 00:34:19,679

is to hear more from communities  
regarding your concerns

484

00:34:19,679 --> 00:34:25,307

about diesel activity and emissions to

help us refine our outreach and education

485

00:34:25,331 --> 00:34:29,908

to improve the program so people  
know more about it and know to apply.

486

00:34:29,932 --> 00:34:34,747

We'd also like to build capacity to help  
communities partner with eligible DERA applicants

487

00:34:34,771 --> 00:34:39,839

so that communities have even more  
involvement in the DERA funding.

488

00:34:39,839 --> 00:34:43,760

That's it for me, thank you.

489

00:34:47,440 --> 00:34:49,647

Matthew Tejada: Thank  
you so much, Christine.

490

00:34:49,671 --> 00:34:55,119

And next, I know my wonderful colleague

Helen DuTeau is on to talk about Superfund,

491

00:34:55,119 --> 00:34:59,040

I'm not sure if you're doing this alone  
or not Helen, but if so you're up.

492

00:34:59,040 --> 00:35:00,834

Helen DuTeau: I am alone.

493

00:35:00,858 --> 00:35:01,599

Matthew Tejada: All right.

494

00:35:01,599 --> 00:35:04,524

Helen DuTeau: Thank you Matt, good  
to see you and thank you everybody.

495

00:35:04,548 --> 00:35:11,200

Good afternoon, it's my pleasure to be here  
to talk to you about the Superfund programs

496

00:35:11,200 --> 00:35:16,560

plan to address the Justice40 pilot.

497

00:35:16,560 --> 00:35:22,480

I am the Branch Chief for the  
Superfund Community Involvement Branch

498

00:35:22,480 --> 00:35:26,400

and we basically manage  
the national program

499

00:35:26,400 --> 00:35:29,453

that cleans up toxic waste  
sites around the country,

500

00:35:29,477 --> 00:35:34,240

and my specific job is to  
make sure that we are implementing

501

00:35:34,240 --> 00:35:40,607

the best possible community involvement program  
that we can at each of our Superfund sites.

502

00:35:40,631 --> 00:35:46,367

The Superfund program cleans up our  
nation's most contaminated waste sites.

503

00:35:46,391 --> 00:35:49,024

This is legacy waste.

504

00:35:49,048 --> 00:35:57,468

You may be familiar that back in the 70s  
toxic waste dumps received national attention.

505

00:35:57,492 --> 00:36:03,338

This was due to sites like Love  
Canal and Valley of the Drums.

506

00:36:03,362 --> 00:36:09,274

And we really started to learn the  
burden that these sites had on communities

507

00:36:09,298 --> 00:36:14,320

and the risks that these sites could  
pose to our health and environment.

508

00:36:14,320 --> 00:36:21,608

So congress decided to enact what is the  
Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation

509

00:36:21,632 --> 00:36:25,735

and Liability Act, we refer  
to it as Superfund.

510

00:36:25,759 --> 00:36:30,480

And it's the CERCLA  
or Superfund law

511

00:36:30,480 --> 00:36:36,480

that allows us to investigate and clean up  
hazardous waste sites across the country.

512

00:36:36,480 --> 00:36:43,461

And one of the cornerstones of our program  
is that we can force the responsible parties

513

00:36:43,485 --> 00:36:50,732

those people that were responsible or  
in some way contributed to the pollution,

514

00:36:50,756 --> 00:36:54,017

we can hold them

accountable for the cleanup

515

00:36:54,141 --> 00:36:59,436

and then we can essentially sue  
them afterwards to reimburse us

516

00:36:59,460 --> 00:37:01,599

if we have to clean up the site.

517

00:37:01,599 --> 00:37:08,160

So that's one of the important  
aspects about the Superfund program.

518

00:37:08,160 --> 00:37:12,518

But one of the other really important  
parts of the Superfund program

519

00:37:12,542 --> 00:37:17,680

is the community involvement part,  
and I'll talk about that a little bit later,

520

00:37:17,680 --> 00:37:21,388

but our primary goal in the

Superfund program is number one

521

00:37:21,412 --> 00:37:23,900

to make sure that we're  
protecting human health

522

00:37:23,924 --> 00:37:29,520

and the environment making the responsible  
parties pay for the cleanup work

523

00:37:29,520 --> 00:37:32,720

and involving the  
communities in the process.

524

00:37:32,720 --> 00:37:38,400

And then finally a very important part  
of our work is trying to get these sites

525

00:37:38,400 --> 00:37:44,255

back to the communities for beneficial  
cleanup, or-- excuse me for beneficial reuse.

526

00:37:44,279 --> 00:37:49,514

So this could be  
redevelopment in terms of parks,

527

00:37:49,538 --> 00:38:00,627

it could be redevelopment in terms of retail  
establishments, alternative energy, projects,

528

00:38:00,651 --> 00:38:09,280

so a lot of our attention is going  
into this reuse part of the Superfund program.

529

00:38:09,280 --> 00:38:12,240

Next slide, please.

530

00:38:16,160 --> 00:38:24,407

So under the Justice40 initiative, the way that  
Superfund is planning to approach our activities

531

00:38:24,431 --> 00:38:31,388

is we're trying to evaluate opportunities  
to modify or enhance our existing work.

532

00:38:31,412 --> 00:38:38,059

So we are in communities on the ground  
every day doing community involvement work,

533

00:38:38,083 --> 00:38:44,720

we do job training programs, we  
have our big redevelopment program,

534

00:38:44,720 --> 00:38:47,866

and we have been doing  
work to identify additional things

535

00:38:47,890 --> 00:38:51,040

that we can do on top  
of our regular work.

536

00:38:51,040 --> 00:38:56,508

So we have some plans to enhance  
the work that we're already doing

537

00:38:56,532 --> 00:39:02,240

and these conversations are  
going to be so helpful in identifying

538

00:39:02,240 --> 00:39:09,628

how we can expand and maximize our current  
resources to better serve the communities

539

00:39:09,652 --> 00:39:10,951

that we work in.

540

00:39:10,975 --> 00:39:15,628

Our engagement and outreach  
objectives are to listen carefully to you,

541

00:39:15,652 --> 00:39:20,154

listen carefully to our stakeholders  
to try and find opportunities

542

00:39:20,178 --> 00:39:29,359

to influence-- to help communities influence  
the site decision, decision making process.

543

00:39:29,359 --> 00:39:34,720

And also very importantly  
encourage communities to really get

544

00:39:34,720 --> 00:39:38,048

in front of the  
redevelopment conversation.

545

00:39:38,072 --> 00:39:43,545

So trying to start the conversation  
of what would we like this site to be,

546

00:39:43,569 --> 00:39:47,807

once it's cleaned up and we have  
resources to help communities do that.

547

00:39:47,831 --> 00:39:51,599

And so one of the things  
that we're trying to do is

548

00:39:51,599 --> 00:39:55,440

work with communities to  
get them to start thinking about,

549

00:39:55,440 --> 00:39:59,649

yes going through the Superfund cleanup  
is going to take time, it's a long process.

550

00:39:59,673 --> 00:40:02,749

But there is light at  
the end of the tunnel

551

00:40:02,773 --> 00:40:10,880

and that light could be a park, a retail  
complex, an office complex housing.

552

00:40:10,880 --> 00:40:16,364

So how can we do that safely and with  
the input of the communities that we serve?

553

00:40:16,388 --> 00:40:17,639

And then finally,

554

00:40:17,663 --> 00:40:22,800

one of the most important parts of our  
community involvement program in Superfund

555

00:40:22,800 --> 00:40:26,360

is that we try to tailor our  
community involvement activities

556

00:40:26,384 --> 00:40:28,457

to meet the needs of the community.

557

00:40:28,481 --> 00:40:34,467

And again this is going to be so critical when  
we have those discussions about redevelopment,

558

00:40:34,491 --> 00:40:41,599

because we want to try to make sure that  
whatever cleanup plan we choose for the site

559

00:40:41,599 --> 00:40:45,458

that it meets the needs  
of the end use for the site,

560

00:40:45,482 --> 00:40:51,640

and communities can have a  
strong voice in that process.

561

00:40:53,359 --> 00:40:55,760

Next slide, if there is one.

562

00:40:55,760 --> 00:41:01,648

And if there's not, I'd just like to thank  
you and invite you to please reach out to me.

563

00:41:01,672 --> 00:41:04,319

Visit our website if I can  
answer any questions.

564

00:41:04,319 --> 00:41:06,464

I'm happy to-- if I can't  
answer them today,

565

00:41:06,488 --> 00:41:08,880

I will get back to  
you, so thank you.

566

00:41:08,880 --> 00:41:10,960

Matthew Tejada: Thanks, Helen.

567

00:41:10,960 --> 00:41:13,107

Yeah, so we're gonna keep  
going, we've got

568

00:41:13,131 --> 00:41:17,008

I think two more colleagues representing  
two more programs that are gonna present

569

00:41:17,032 --> 00:41:20,884

and then I think we're gonna  
get into a little more question

570

00:41:20,908 --> 00:41:23,359

and answer kind of dialogue here.

571

00:41:23,359 --> 00:41:31,720

I think next up is Frank Sylvester, who is  
from our Clean Water State Revolving Fund program.

572

00:41:34,319 --> 00:41:36,160

Frank Sylvester: Thank  
you, Matt. I appreciate it.

573

00:41:36,160 --> 00:41:40,960

I appreciate the time today everyone's  
taking to listen here to EPA.

574

00:41:40,960 --> 00:41:46,308

I'm here from the Office of Water, specifically  
the EPA's Office of Wastewater Management

575

00:41:46,332 --> 00:41:50,640

to talk about the Clean  
Water State Revolving Fund.

576

00:41:50,640 --> 00:41:55,728

There are 51 state revolving  
funds on the clean water side

577

00:41:55,752 --> 00:41:59,138

that's for the 50 states plus Puerto Rico.

578

00:41:59,162 --> 00:42:05,218

And these are delegated programs, so that  
means the states run these programs

579

00:42:05,242 --> 00:42:08,460

and EPA provides  
federal oversight.

580

00:42:08,560 --> 00:42:13,440

These programs were established  
by Title VI of the Clean Water Act,

581

00:42:13,440 --> 00:42:25,470

essentially to provide low interest loans or  
sometimes principal forgiveness

582

00:42:25,494 --> 00:42:30,800

to communities for wastewater  
infrastructure projects in a nutshell.

583

00:42:30,800 --> 00:42:37,199

So each year the federal government provides  
a capitalization grant to each state,

584

00:42:37,223 --> 00:42:44,248

which is based on a formula, in 2020 that  
amount was just over 1.6 billion dollars

585

00:42:44,272 --> 00:42:48,800

divided amongst the 51 programs.

586

00:42:48,800 --> 00:42:53,520

States are required  
to provide a 20% match

587

00:42:53,520 --> 00:42:56,870

and that money goes into  
the state revolving fund,

588

00:42:56,894 --> 00:42:59,271

and it goes out to  
communities in the form of,

589

00:42:59,295 --> 00:43:04,319

as I mentioned really  
low interest rate loans,

590

00:43:04,319 --> 00:43:09,460

so either at or below market rate,  
in terms of principal forgiveness,

591

00:43:09,460 --> 00:43:14,748

their loans are prior loans  
where the principal is forgiven,

592

00:43:14,772 --> 00:43:17,599

in so essentially in the form of grants.

593

00:43:17,599 --> 00:43:20,308

And then there's a couple of other  
ways the money you could go out to,

594

00:43:20,332 --> 00:43:24,079

but those are  
the two big categories.

595

00:43:24,079 --> 00:43:30,800

And the payments from the loans  
back to the Revolving Loan Fund

596

00:43:30,800 --> 00:43:34,065

then go back out to other  
grantees in the future,

597

00:43:34,089 --> 00:43:38,000

so the loan is a revolving fund program.

598

00:43:38,000 --> 00:43:43,040

For the clean water side eligibilities,  
include wastewater treatment plants,

599

00:43:43,040 --> 00:43:47,760

storm water management,  
surface water quality projects,

600

00:43:47,760 --> 00:43:54,720

things like habitat restoration,  
water reuse, desalination even,

601

00:43:54,720 --> 00:43:56,809

and there's a couple  
of others but that's

602

00:43:56,833 --> 00:44:01,520

that's sort of the general  
perspective on the clean water side.

603

00:44:01,520 --> 00:44:04,268

And you'll hear from my colleague  
Yu Ting Guilaran in a minute

604

00:44:04,292 --> 00:44:08,320

about the drinking water

state revolving fund.

605

00:44:08,320 --> 00:44:12,888

So the state revolving fund

programs have a network of partners

606

00:44:12,912 --> 00:44:17,996

and stakeholders that we

work with on a regular basis,

607

00:44:18,020 --> 00:44:24,186

and so as I mentioned, the states primarily

run these programs and EPA has oversight.

608

00:44:24,210 --> 00:44:31,839

So our main partners are the states, they're the

ones on the ground implementing these programs.

609

00:44:31,839 --> 00:44:38,561

So for Justice40 our plan is to really leverage

our relationships with those state programs,

610

00:44:38,585 --> 00:44:44,000

and the main implementers  
of the Clean Water State Revolving Funds,

611

00:44:44,000 --> 00:44:48,079

and also reach out down  
to the community level,

612

00:44:48,079 --> 00:44:50,980

and some other partners too,

613

00:44:51,004 --> 00:44:56,880

so what we envision is getting  
down to the community level

614

00:44:56,880 --> 00:44:59,680

in our engagements  
hearing from communities

615

00:44:59,680 --> 00:45:06,079

that have applied to a state  
revolving fund program for a loan,

616

00:45:06,079 --> 00:45:11,119

and have had that application accepted,  
communities that have applied for a loan,

617

00:45:11,119 --> 00:45:13,325

but haven't had  
their application accepted,

618

00:45:13,349 --> 00:45:21,680

and then also communities that either have  
just never applied for a loan to understand why not.

619

00:45:21,680 --> 00:45:25,086

We want to identify  
what the barriers were,

620

00:45:25,110 --> 00:45:30,288

what problems I ran into,  
is it lack of expertise

621

00:45:30,312 --> 00:45:34,240

or sort of the capacity at the

community level?

622

00:45:34,240 --> 00:45:40,128

We also want to reach out to our  
network of non-governmental organizations

623

00:45:40,152 --> 00:45:46,319

and universities  
as our partners to identify

624

00:45:46,319 --> 00:45:54,240

just how can we better reach  
environmental justice communities,

625

00:45:54,400 --> 00:46:02,720

how can we steer our program  
focus on the Justice40 initiative

626

00:46:02,720 --> 00:46:18,800

and use different labs to communities  
that have been disadvantaged.

627

00:46:19,680 --> 00:46:25,599

So I think I'll stop there and I'll pass  
it over to my colleague Yu Ting Guilaran.

628

00:46:27,599 --> 00:46:30,319

Yu Ting Guilaran: Hi, everyone,  
my name is Yu Ting Guilaran,

629

00:46:30,319 --> 00:46:33,920

can you hear me okay?

630

00:46:35,359 --> 00:46:36,547

Matthew Tejada: Yes, you're good.

631

00:46:36,571 --> 00:46:40,386

Yu Ting Guilaran: Okay thank you,  
Matt, [LAUGHS] for the confirmation.

632

00:46:40,410 --> 00:46:46,328

So the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund  
is very similar to the Clean Water SRF.

633

00:46:46,352 --> 00:46:53,187

It is also a delegate program in which EPA

awards the capitalization grants to 51 partners,

634

00:46:53,211 --> 00:46:58,079

so each state in Puerto Rico to  
implement a drinking water program,

635

00:46:58,079 --> 00:47:02,880

based on state, specific  
priorities with EPA oversight.

636

00:47:02,880 --> 00:47:08,240

So again just kind of recap our  
state partners loan out the money

637

00:47:08,240 --> 00:47:11,708

at subsidized below market  
rates to recipients for projects

638

00:47:11,732 --> 00:47:15,839

that meet the eligibility of  
the Safe Drinking Water Act.

639

00:47:15,839 --> 00:47:21,908

So the disadvantage assistance portion has always been part of the Drinking Water SRF

640

00:47:21,932 --> 00:47:23,380

since the inception.

641

00:47:23,404 --> 00:47:29,419

So a couple of examples associated with that is that Drinking Water SRF allows states

642

00:47:29,443 --> 00:47:34,168

to take up to 31% of the capitalization grant as set-asides

643

00:47:34,192 --> 00:47:39,040

to provide non-infrastructure assistance to water systems.

644

00:47:39,040 --> 00:47:42,328

So you may be asking yourself what that may entail,

645

00:47:42,352 --> 00:47:49,359

so that could be something such as helping  
system develop the capacity to apply for a loan.

646

00:47:49,359 --> 00:47:54,447

So the these funds can be used to help systems  
that do not have the managerial technical

647

00:47:54,471 --> 00:48:01,015

and financial capacity what we refer to  
as TMF to effectively manage your system

648

00:48:01,039 --> 00:48:02,445

to develop those tools.

649

00:48:02,469 --> 00:48:07,280

And the funds can also help the  
system prepare for infrastructure project.

650

00:48:07,280 --> 00:48:09,823

If that is indeed a  
solution to the challenge

651

00:48:09,847 --> 00:48:16,000

that they're having in terms of coming  
to compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act.

652

00:48:16,000 --> 00:48:21,359

Another kind of a unique feature is the  
assistance to disadvantaged communities,

653

00:48:21,359 --> 00:48:26,088

so each state by statute  
they define, they come up

654

00:48:26,112 --> 00:48:29,241

with a definition for  
disadvantaged communities.

655

00:48:29,440 --> 00:48:33,208

Currently for Drinking Water SRF  
there-- for the disadvantaged communities

656

00:48:33,232 --> 00:48:38,880

they may extend the term  
of the loan up to 40 years,

657

00:48:38,880 --> 00:48:46,240

and another example would be currently six  
to 35% of the capitalization grants

658

00:48:46,240 --> 00:48:51,574

must be provided as additional subsidy just as  
what Frank was talking about,

659

00:48:51,598 --> 00:48:56,319

an example of that would be principal  
forgiveness to disadvantaged communities.

660

00:48:56,319 --> 00:49:00,548

The way that the Drinking  
Water SRF allotment works is that

661

00:49:00,672 --> 00:49:05,744

we actually conduct drinking  
water needs survey every four years

662

00:49:05,768 --> 00:49:10,559

and we use the results of  
that to come up with the allotment.

663

00:49:10,559 --> 00:49:17,440

So similar to clean water through the coordination  
of a network of partners and stakeholder,

664

00:49:17,440 --> 00:49:20,367

we're developing and implementing  
strategy to expand the outreach

665

00:49:20,391 --> 00:49:24,800

and maximizing the benefits  
to disadvantaged communities.

666

00:49:24,800 --> 00:49:31,608

So the plan is to really directly engage  
through our partners such as the NGO's

667

00:49:31,632 --> 00:49:38,379

and university communities and also definitely  
as our state partners to coordinate with them

668

00:49:38,403 --> 00:49:40,160

and engage with them.

669

00:49:40,160 --> 00:49:43,015

Because they direct benefits  
and are critical to ensuring

670

00:49:43,039 --> 00:49:46,480

that disadvantaged  
communities are included

671

00:49:46,480 --> 00:49:50,240

and are able to receive the  
Drinking Water SRF benefits.

672

00:49:50,240 --> 00:49:53,277

So since I have the  
platform I'll just go ahead

673

00:49:53,301 --> 00:49:57,197

and also cover the last  
pilot for Office of Water,

674

00:49:57,221 --> 00:50:00,757

which is the WIN Lead Reduction grant.

675

00:50:00,781 --> 00:50:05,442

So the 2016 Water Infrastructure  
Improvements for the Nation Act,

676

00:50:05,466 --> 00:50:12,648

I know that's a mouthful WIIN, as  
we call it WIIN Act addresses supports

677

00:50:12,672 --> 00:50:16,559

and improves America's  
drinking water infrastructure.

678

00:50:16,559 --> 00:50:19,945

There are really two  
fundamental policy objectives

679

00:50:19,969 --> 00:50:24,640

that's articulated in the  
authorizing WIIN legislation,

680

00:50:24,640 --> 00:50:29,588

and one of them is enhancing public  
health protection via drinking water

681

00:50:29,612 --> 00:50:36,000

and the other one is to provide assistance  
to economically disadvantaged entities.

682

00:50:36,000 --> 00:50:41,440

The program principally establishes  
eligibility to the states,

683

00:50:41,440 --> 00:50:46,895

territories and tribes to support these  
communities with funding for projects

684

00:50:46,919 --> 00:50:53,440

that are eligible under WIIN and in this case  
is for reduction of lead in drinking water.

685

00:50:53,440 --> 00:50:58,319

So our program engage our regional  
offices when conducting outreach

686

00:50:58,319 --> 00:51:03,040

to disadvantaged communities on for

instance the request for application,

687

00:51:03,040 --> 00:51:08,273

and really want to emphasize through our outreach  
that the projects are based on lead exposure,

688

00:51:08,297 --> 00:51:11,680

and state specific priority.

689

00:51:11,680 --> 00:51:16,848

So the effort really is trying to  
lead to developing a foundation

690

00:51:16,872 --> 00:51:23,040

focus on successfully prioritizing the grain  
program objective of improved public health,

691

00:51:23,040 --> 00:51:25,968

delivering access to state  
drinking water, and maintaining,

692

00:51:25,992 --> 00:51:30,400

and enhancing system

compliance in these communities.

693

00:51:30,400 --> 00:51:35,927

So again in terms of engagement, our plan is to collaborate with our federal partners

694

00:51:35,951 --> 00:51:39,716

to construct across matrix of additional available funding

695

00:51:39,840 --> 00:51:44,888

and resources kind of align them together to communities to broaden the impact

696

00:51:44,912 --> 00:51:47,377

of the grant funding improvement.

697

00:51:47,401 --> 00:51:51,383

An example of that could be the US Department of Health

698

00:51:51,407 --> 00:51:56,800

and human services low-income

household water assistance program.

699

00:51:56,800 --> 00:52:01,040

We are also planning to engage  
disadvantaged communities directly

700

00:52:01,040 --> 00:52:05,908

through the state and federal partnership  
and through our water association.

701

00:52:05,932 --> 00:52:10,800

And of course last but not least is  
to engage our state partners as well,

702

00:52:10,800 --> 00:52:15,968

who really have a direct experience and  
resources to oversee the drinking water systems

703

00:52:15,992 --> 00:52:21,359

and to provide the critical support to  
ensure that disadvantaged communities

704

00:52:21,359 --> 00:52:28,960

are included, can be really  
able to receive the grant funding.

705

00:52:28,960 --> 00:52:33,628

So I think that concludes the Office  
of Water presentation, back to you Matt.

706

00:52:33,652 --> 00:52:35,263

Matthew Tejada: Okay, thank you, Ting.

707

00:52:35,287 --> 00:52:40,857

And I know some folks have been  
asking, we didn't get using slides in time,

708

00:52:40,881 --> 00:52:45,428

but we do have them so we will  
be making a revised slide deck,

709

00:52:45,452 --> 00:52:49,760

so again, this recording  
will be posted up,

710

00:52:49,760 --> 00:52:52,868

and then we're also going to post up  
this slide deck on our EJ website.

711

00:52:52,892 --> 00:52:56,428

And we'll make sure folks  
know when that happens

712

00:52:56,452 --> 00:52:58,960

and the links and everything else,

713

00:52:58,960 --> 00:53:03,680

so we will be making all  
of this as transparent as we can

714

00:53:03,680 --> 00:53:06,559

by getting stuff up on our websites.

715

00:53:06,559 --> 00:53:12,427

So with that just wanted to make sure also,  
there's already plenty of information out there

716

00:53:12,451 --> 00:53:18,319

from the White House, as well as from the White

House Environmental Justice Advisory Council

717

00:53:18,319 --> 00:53:20,508

on Justice40 and other topics.

718

00:53:20,532 --> 00:53:27,668

So we've included a couple of URLs here for folks if you want to either Google those,

719

00:53:27,692 --> 00:53:31,811

or if you want to type those out, you can find some more information,

720

00:53:31,835 --> 00:53:36,960

so the first of those is the actual guidance

721

00:53:36,960 --> 00:53:40,848

that the Office of Management and Budget in the White House issued

722

00:53:40,872 --> 00:53:44,319

back on July 20th, I believe it was.

723

00:53:44,319 --> 00:53:49,512

And then also the WHEJAC  
recommendations which preceded that,

724

00:53:49,536 --> 00:53:54,079

I believe those were finished  
a little bit earlier in this summer.

725

00:53:54,079 --> 00:53:56,820

So we can go forward one, Victoria.

726

00:53:56,844 --> 00:54:00,800

So now we're to the  
listening session in dialogue.

727

00:54:00,800 --> 00:54:05,308

So I know we have a number of things  
that have been answered in the Q&A pod.

728

00:54:05,332 --> 00:54:11,359

I think we've been trying to answer  
those as much as we can in the Q&A pod,

729

00:54:11,359 --> 00:54:15,411

but I see some hands raised as well so  
I'm going to turn it back over to Victoria,

730

00:54:15,435 --> 00:54:21,745

and we've got a good-- about solid hour  
here for some question and answer with folks.

731

00:54:21,769 --> 00:54:25,512

Victoria Robinson: Okay, real quick on some  
housekeeping for the listening session,

732

00:54:25,536 --> 00:54:29,108

please go ahead and you guys already are  
doing a great job of this adding questions

733

00:54:29,132 --> 00:54:30,935

or comments into the Q&A pod.

734

00:54:30,959 --> 00:54:32,688

We have people  
answering those questions,

735

00:54:32,712 --> 00:54:37,484

some of the questions we'll actually take--  
we'll read live I think there are a few,

736

00:54:37,508 --> 00:54:41,760

Christina from our office  
will be selecting those questions

737

00:54:41,760 --> 00:54:43,728

that she will pose to you, Matthew

738

00:54:43,752 --> 00:54:47,427

that we might have  
answered live here on the call.

739

00:54:47,451 --> 00:54:51,920

And then after that we will be  
actually opening it up the conversation

740

00:54:51,920 --> 00:54:54,240

to folks to ask questions specifically.

741

00:54:54,240 --> 00:54:57,408

So when you're prompted, please go  
ahead and start raising your hands,

742

00:54:57,432 --> 00:55:01,127

so that it can show  
up in the participant list,

743

00:55:01,151 --> 00:55:03,720

so I can see who  
wants to ask a question.

744

00:55:03,744 --> 00:55:06,623

First come first serve,  
that's how the system works.

745

00:55:06,647 --> 00:55:11,008

If you're using a phone once  
again press \*9 to raise your hand

746

00:55:11,032 --> 00:55:15,268

so that you do show up in our list  
of folks who want to ask questions.

747

00:55:15,292 --> 00:55:20,400

And again reminder, please limit your questions or comments to one minute.

748

00:55:20,400 --> 00:55:22,880

So I'm going to turn it over to you, Matthew

749

00:55:22,880 --> 00:55:25,298

while Christina figures out which one she asked first,

750

00:55:25,322 --> 00:55:28,240

but you can go ahead and go through the prompting questions,

751

00:55:28,240 --> 00:55:29,788

you're on the next screen okay.

752

00:55:29,912 --> 00:55:30,720

Matthew Tejada: All right.

753

00:55:31,520 --> 00:55:32,628

Victoria Robinson: There you go.

754

00:55:32,652 --> 00:55:36,000

Matthew Tejada: Okay, so here's a  
few things that we wanted to start with,

755

00:55:36,000 --> 00:55:39,834

just generally if folks want to speak to these  
as we kind of get the more specific questions

756

00:55:39,858 --> 00:55:43,200

pulled together to  
start working through.

757

00:55:43,200 --> 00:55:49,119

Just to think about what do you all  
community leaders, community members,

758

00:55:49,119 --> 00:55:51,068

non-profiteers out  
there anybody else,

759

00:55:51,092 --> 00:55:54,880

what do you all want to get from these  
meetings moving forward,

760

00:55:54,880 --> 00:56:00,719

and what do you all hope is accomplished  
by us holding these bi-weekly meetings--

761

00:56:00,743 --> 00:56:03,280

sorry somebody's  
trying to call me.

762

00:56:03,280 --> 00:56:09,728

What do you need in order to better  
engage on Justice40 besides these meetings?

763

00:56:09,752 --> 00:56:12,926

Is there specific information,  
are there other venues

764

00:56:12,950 --> 00:56:18,000

that we can try to help  
facilitate other resources,

765

00:56:18,000 --> 00:56:21,168

what do you all need out there in  
the public to better engage with us

766

00:56:21,192 --> 00:56:24,400

and all of our program  
colleagues on Justice40?

767

00:56:24,400 --> 00:56:27,920

And again we're just talking  
about Justice40 at EPA,

768

00:56:27,920 --> 00:56:31,680

if folks have comments  
or questions or requests

769

00:56:31,680 --> 00:56:35,680

that are overall, we can pass  
those on to our colleagues

770

00:56:35,680 --> 00:56:37,680

at the Council on

## Environmental Quality

771

00:56:37,680 --> 00:56:40,228

and the Office of  
Management and Budget.

772

00:56:40,252 --> 00:56:44,480

But for the purposes of today's  
meeting we are just talking about

773

00:56:44,480 --> 00:56:47,950

the implementation of Justice40 at EPA,

774

00:56:47,974 --> 00:56:52,400

or what can we do to make sure  
that EPA is headed in the right direction

775

00:56:52,400 --> 00:56:54,342

with the implementation of Justice40.

776

00:56:54,366 --> 00:56:57,559

I think that last question  
is really the big one,

777

00:56:57,583 --> 00:57:02,880

that's kind of the big purpose  
for us having these is to make sure

778

00:57:02,880 --> 00:57:07,359

that as we implement Justice40,  
EPA is heading in the direction

779

00:57:07,359 --> 00:57:10,319

that community stakeholders,  
community leaders,

780

00:57:10,319 --> 00:57:12,960

that y'all are wanting from us.

781

00:57:12,960 --> 00:57:23,200

So with that, I will see if Cristina Motilall is  
ready to start doing some other questions.

782

00:57:23,200 --> 00:57:24,748

Cristina Motilall: Absolutely,  
thank you Matthew.

783

00:57:24,772 --> 00:57:30,160

And just so everyone knows I am putting these questions out in chronological order.

784

00:57:30,160 --> 00:57:34,960

So the first one we have to be answered aloud is

785

00:57:34,960 --> 00:57:41,200

what would be the approach to connect with tribal communities with the J40 goals?

786

00:57:41,200 --> 00:57:46,480

Matthew Tejada: Yeah, I mean I think that's going to take a variety

787

00:57:46,480 --> 00:57:49,554

of avenues kind of like we're doing here.

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00:57:49,578 --> 00:57:55,599

We are already talking with our colleagues in the American Indian Environmental Office,

789

00:57:55,599 --> 00:58:00,559

and I know some of the other programs  
that have major equities implicated in this

790

00:58:00,559 --> 00:58:06,079

about making sure that we live up to our  
responsibility to engage nation to nation,

791

00:58:06,079 --> 00:58:12,319

with tribal governments and  
tribal nations through consultation.

792

00:58:12,319 --> 00:58:18,901

I think EPA has always been a leader across  
the federal family in having a rigorous

793

00:58:18,925 --> 00:58:22,108

and responsive consultation  
practice and policy.

794

00:58:22,132 --> 00:58:27,839

So that is one of the things

that we're working on currently,

795

00:58:27,839 --> 00:58:32,397

but then also through these  
sorts of general sessions

796

00:58:32,421 --> 00:58:40,046

or if there are tribal governments or other  
tribal and indigenous groups, communities

797

00:58:40,070 --> 00:58:45,520

that want to have more focused engagement,  
that's part of what we're here to fill

798

00:58:45,520 --> 00:58:50,648

to fill those sorts of requests, if it's  
specific and we can set up something specific

799

00:58:50,672 --> 00:58:52,880

with some certain programs.

800

00:58:52,880 --> 00:58:57,040

We can help facilitate that, we can

make sure that the dots are connected

801

00:58:57,040 --> 00:59:00,960

and that people

follow through on things

802

00:59:00,960 --> 00:59:05,767

or if perhaps we want to look at

holding one of these sessions,

803

00:59:05,891 --> 00:59:13,188

one of these bi-weekly sessions in the future

that is very specific to the unique perspective

804

00:59:13,212 --> 00:59:18,028

and needs of tribal communities, of

tribal governments of other indigenous

805

00:59:18,052 --> 00:59:20,720

or native peoples populations.

806

00:59:20,720 --> 00:59:22,019

Then we can certainly look at that,

807

00:59:22,043 --> 00:59:26,160

but that's part of the feedback  
we're looking for to make sure

808

00:59:26,160 --> 00:59:31,680

that communities such as indigenous  
communities and tribal governments

809

00:59:31,680 --> 00:59:37,527

really feel that you are fully  
engaged, that there's transparency

810

00:59:37,551 --> 00:59:39,556

and accountability in the process.

811

00:59:39,580 --> 00:59:42,634

and that you feel we  
are hearing your perspectives,

812

00:59:42,658 --> 00:59:47,599

and that is reflected in how we continue  
on the implementation of this mandate.

813

00:59:47,599 --> 00:59:48,960

Victoria Robinson: Matthew, this is Victoria.

814

00:59:48,984 --> 00:59:53,920

I'd also like to add that I do know  
that we'll be coordinating working with

815

00:59:53,920 --> 00:59:57,200

the American Indian  
Environmental Office I believe on a--

816

00:59:57,200 --> 00:59:58,747

they're gonna have a  
conversation on Justice40

817

00:59:58,771 --> 01:00:03,599

during the National Tribal Operations Committee  
meeting that's scheduled soon I believe

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01:00:03,599 --> 01:00:08,960

and in November, December there will be  
as part of the National Tribal--

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01:00:08,960 --> 01:00:12,522

EJ Tribal and Indigenous

People's webinar series,

820

01:00:12,546 --> 01:00:18,799

they'll be-- one of those will focus on

Justice40, consultation is part of that process.

821

01:00:18,799 --> 01:00:23,007

I do know those things are actually going

to happen in the next couple of months

822

01:00:23,031 --> 01:00:27,400

in addition to what

you've said specifically.

823

01:00:28,720 --> 01:00:30,720

Matthew Tejada: Okay, thank you Victoria.

824

01:00:30,720 --> 01:00:32,400

Christina?

825

01:00:32,400 --> 01:00:34,079

Christina Motilall: Great, thank you.

826

01:00:34,079 --> 01:00:41,920

The next question is what does Justice40 change or do to address the EJ civil rights?

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01:00:41,920 --> 01:00:44,728

Matthew Tejada: Yeah,  
so this is not-- this is--

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01:00:44,752 --> 01:00:52,668

Justice40 is not specific to advancing the implementation of our civil rights authorities

829

01:00:52,692 --> 01:00:57,760

such as under Title  
VI of the Civil Rights Act,

830

01:00:57,760 --> 01:01:06,400

however I really see both the implementation of Executive Order 13985 on racial equity

831

01:01:06,400 --> 01:01:17,280

and also Justice40 which is about making  
sure that an equitable amount of resources

832

01:01:17,280 --> 01:01:22,079

go to disadvantaged communities  
or communities that are typically

833

01:01:22,079 --> 01:01:26,720

people of color communities, low-income  
indigenous tribal communities

834

01:01:26,720 --> 01:01:33,040

that they receive an equitable  
share of the resources they need

835

01:01:33,040 --> 01:01:39,743

in order to start to make up  
for the inequalities and injustices

836

01:01:39,767 --> 01:01:45,368

that have been historic in our  
country through systems and structures

837

01:01:45,392 --> 01:01:52,480

that are racist and that have had  
generational centuries-long impact

838

01:01:52,480 --> 01:01:59,857

on inequality-- on the  
unequal allocation of resources,

839

01:01:59,881 --> 01:02:05,247

on the unequal access to benefits,  
on the unequal access to things

840

01:02:05,271 --> 01:02:10,160

such as health care or  
housing or natural resources.

841

01:02:10,160 --> 01:02:17,583

I see Justice40 as one of the  
methods that this administration,

842

01:02:17,607 --> 01:02:23,760

the Biden-Harris Administration,

again, mandated from its first days

843

01:02:23,760 --> 01:02:28,559

to try to start addressing those  
historic inequities and injustices.

844

01:02:28,559 --> 01:02:34,000

So it's not specific to advancing  
the practice of enforcement of Title VI

845

01:02:34,000 --> 01:02:39,200

and living up to the mandate of Title VI,  
but it is a piece of the larger puzzle

846

01:02:39,200 --> 01:02:47,319

of addressing those historic  
inequities and injustices.

847

01:02:49,839 --> 01:02:52,840

Christina Motilall: Right, thank you, Matt.

848

01:02:53,039 --> 01:02:57,048

The next question we have is how can

EPA track whether states are spending

849

01:02:57,072 --> 01:03:00,640

the money to benefit EJ communities?

850

01:03:00,640 --> 01:03:02,748

Matthew Tejada: That's one of  
the things we have to figure out [LAUGHS]

851

01:03:02,772 --> 01:03:06,587

I mean that is-- that is one of--  
there's a lot of big questions,

852

01:03:06,611 --> 01:03:08,079

that is one of them.

853

01:03:08,079 --> 01:03:14,799

One of the things that we're working  
through is like we kind of laid out--

854

01:03:14,799 --> 01:03:20,559

we have six programs, some of our biggest  
programs are already in the pilot.

855

01:03:21,520 --> 01:03:26,960

We'll see how many other  
programs are over time

856

01:03:26,960 --> 01:03:31,895

eventually implicated in the overall  
implementation of Justice40

857

01:03:31,919 --> 01:03:38,400

not just at EPA but across  
the entire federal government.

858

01:03:38,400 --> 01:03:44,799

And a lot of those programs or all of those  
programs have different unique features to them,

859

01:03:44,799 --> 01:03:48,188

some of them are competitive,  
some of them are not competitive

860

01:03:48,212 --> 01:03:55,599

some of them are allocated, some of them are

allocated in ways that an agency such as EPA

861

01:03:55,599 --> 01:04:01,108

had some room to kind of decide

how to allocate those resources to states

862

01:04:01,132 --> 01:04:04,160

or local governments

or to tribal governments.

863

01:04:04,160 --> 01:04:09,520

Some of them carry with them

statutory language from congress

864

01:04:09,520 --> 01:04:15,214

that gives us next to no room in

some instances to actually decide

865

01:04:15,238 --> 01:04:17,599

how and where they're spent.

866

01:04:17,599 --> 01:04:24,735

So that's part of the challenge

that's intended by Justice40,

867

01:04:24,759 --> 01:04:31,300

I think is to really mandate that all  
of us across the federal government

868

01:04:31,324 --> 01:04:37,680

and part of what we are wrestling  
with already at EPA is to figure out

869

01:04:37,680 --> 01:04:42,834

"Okay, if we have one of those programs where  
we can pretty much decide how it happens,

870

01:04:42,858 --> 01:04:45,407

great, what are we going  
to do with that program

871

01:04:45,431 --> 01:04:49,599

to make sure we're making  
progress towards this 40% goal?"

872

01:04:49,599 --> 01:04:55,920

If we have a program that has very clear instructions from congress and a formula,

873

01:04:55,920 --> 01:05:01,359

a bunch of legal stuff that there's-- we don't have a choice about,

874

01:05:01,359 --> 01:05:06,319

what other things can we potentially do to try to make sure that those resources

875

01:05:06,319 --> 01:05:10,708

get to the intended communities to those disadvantaged communities?

876

01:05:10,732 --> 01:05:14,528

Is that part of our relationship building with states?

877

01:05:14,552 --> 01:05:18,909

Is that providing capacity building to states to better understand what we mean

878

01:05:18,933 --> 01:05:23,352

when we talk about communities with EJ  
concerns or disadvantaged communities

879

01:05:23,376 --> 01:05:27,308

or using different mapping  
tools to understand that

880

01:05:27,332 --> 01:05:31,728

or engaging better or more fully  
with those impacted communities.

881

01:05:31,752 --> 01:05:34,612

So that's part of what  
we're kind of working out

882

01:05:34,636 --> 01:05:38,000

but the how do we do that  
and how do we work

883

01:05:38,000 --> 01:05:41,680

across all of these  
different various programs

884

01:05:41,680 --> 01:05:43,039

and then as we're doing that,

885

01:05:43,039 --> 01:05:47,200

how can we actually track

it? How can we calculate it?

886

01:05:47,200 --> 01:05:49,159

Where will there be opportunities--

887

01:05:49,183 --> 01:05:53,280

again, where we can mandate

it, where will there be opportunities?

888

01:05:53,280 --> 01:06:01,000

Where we have to use other softer forms of

governing to try to get to the same goal?

889

01:06:01,024 --> 01:06:06,287

And this of course it's not-- like the

states don't know this is going on,

890

01:06:06,311 --> 01:06:11,228

we've already had a couple of conversations  
at least with a number of states

891

01:06:11,252 --> 01:06:15,648

and with some of the organizations  
or the venues that help to organize

892

01:06:15,672 --> 01:06:19,839

all the states together such as  
the environmental council of states

893

01:06:19,839 --> 01:06:24,548

because we have a lot of colleagues of  
course that are involved in implementation

894

01:06:24,572 --> 01:06:30,628

of the federal environmental authorities and  
they want to know how to make this work as well,

895

01:06:30,652 --> 01:06:33,819

but I think there's going to  
be a lot of different answers,

896

01:06:33,843 --> 01:06:37,039

there's going to be at least  
as many different answers

897

01:06:37,039 --> 01:06:43,839

as there are programs that are  
eventually implicated in Justice40.

898

01:06:43,839 --> 01:06:47,440

I hope that was some sort of an answer.

899

01:06:47,440 --> 01:06:48,744

Christina Motilall: That was great.

900

01:06:48,768 --> 01:06:51,048

Matthew Tejada: All right, thank you as  
long as you think so, Christina.

901

01:06:51,072 --> 01:06:52,880

Christina Motilall: Right, well [LAUGHS]

902

01:06:52,880 --> 01:06:54,147

Thank you so much, Matt.

903

01:06:54,171 --> 01:06:58,948

The next question we have is, do  
communities have to be a formalized group

904

01:06:58,972 --> 01:07:02,896

or a non-profit to apply  
for J40 pilot resources?

905

01:07:02,920 --> 01:07:04,960

Matthew Tejada: So there's not--

906

01:07:04,960 --> 01:07:07,768

this is not and this was something  
that has been happening

907

01:07:07,792 --> 01:07:10,160

with the American  
Rescue Plan funding as well.

908

01:07:10,160 --> 01:07:15,688

J40 is not creating like a pool

of money that people can dip into

909

01:07:15,712 --> 01:07:20,559

it's not creating a new  
thing that people can apply to,

910

01:07:20,559 --> 01:07:26,880

that's why we spend some time just now going  
through some of these individual programs.

911

01:07:26,880 --> 01:07:29,606

It's different than what  
happened in California,

912

01:07:29,630 --> 01:07:35,839

I know it kind of uses what happened  
in California as kind of a model

913

01:07:35,839 --> 01:07:43,430

where California had a climate tax and  
they took the revenue from that climate tax

914

01:07:43,454 --> 01:07:48,926

and said 40% off the top is going  
to be reserved for certain communities

915

01:07:48,950 --> 01:07:53,640

and that was part of what happened  
with their tool CalEnviroscreen.

916

01:07:53,640 --> 01:07:58,640

Calenviroscreen was kind of changed  
so that it could be the map

917

01:07:58,640 --> 01:08:02,728

that shows which communities can apply  
for that 40% of funding

918

01:08:02,752 --> 01:08:08,000

but that was unique to California, California  
had a revenue stream that they could say

919

01:08:08,000 --> 01:08:11,920

40% of that revenue stream is  
going to this purpose.

920

01:08:11,920 --> 01:08:16,267

We don't have some dedicated  
revenue stream at the federal level,

921

01:08:16,291 --> 01:08:19,107

so what we're doing  
instead is we're looking across

922

01:08:19,131 --> 01:08:24,880

which I think it's-- we don't  
have a dedicated revenue stream

923

01:08:24,880 --> 01:08:27,520

but we have all of these other resources,

924

01:08:27,520 --> 01:08:32,560

transportation resources, housing  
resources at EPA environmental resources,

925

01:08:32,560 --> 01:08:40,319

agricultural, all of these different programs  
and the intent here is to make sure that

926

01:08:40,319 --> 01:08:47,279

these different resource streams, these  
different programs that can benefit communities

927

01:08:47,279 --> 01:08:52,930

to make sure that at least 40% of those  
resources do benefit the communities

928

01:08:52,954 --> 01:08:54,479

that need them the most.

929

01:08:54,479 --> 01:09:00,621

So in some instances it might mean that  
yeah, one of our programs might pop up

930

01:09:00,645 --> 01:09:05,076

and be like we're going to do a  
grant solution solicitation differently

931

01:09:05,100 --> 01:09:07,751

and we're going to make sure  
communities can apply to it

932

01:09:07,775 --> 01:09:12,148

but we're also going to-- they might  
choose a whole bunch of things to do,

933

01:09:12,172 --> 01:09:16,640

so there might be individual, there  
likely will be individual instances

934

01:09:16,640 --> 01:09:21,706

where new opportunities open up  
that communities can take advantage of

935

01:09:21,730 --> 01:09:26,394

or that maybe, state or tribal or local  
governments can take advantage of

936

01:09:26,418 --> 01:09:33,759

and we'll try to signal that that's  
being done as a result of Justice40

937

01:09:33,759 --> 01:09:38,399

but it's not like we're creating one big  
pot of money that people can apply to.

938

01:09:38,399 --> 01:09:45,839

And that's part of why trying to communicate  
very consistently and broadly about this,

939

01:09:45,839 --> 01:09:50,799

I'm trying to keep information flowing  
out there on the regular

940

01:09:50,799 --> 01:09:55,388

through things like these calls, through  
our listserv, through social media, whatever,

941

01:09:55,412 --> 01:10:00,348

like we really need folks to understand that  
this is going to be a complicated process,

942

01:10:00,372 --> 01:10:03,360

there's going to be  
a lot of elements to this

943

01:10:03,360 --> 01:10:07,760

and that's part of why we want  
to get a lot of input from folks

944

01:10:07,760 --> 01:10:10,719

but we also want there  
to be a lot of awareness

945

01:10:10,719 --> 01:10:14,928

on how this is actually going to work over  
time because it's going to take a lot of--

946

01:10:14,952 --> 01:10:21,161

it's going to take a lot of attention and  
a lot of action from community members,

947

01:10:21,185 --> 01:10:26,146

from other partners at state, tribal  
local levels not just engaging with us

948

01:10:26,170 --> 01:10:29,694

but also community members engaging  
with those other levels of government.

949

01:10:29,718 --> 01:10:36,747

This is a huge change effort for

the way we govern in the United States,

950

01:10:36,771 --> 01:10:39,920

really putting equity  
at the center of that,

951

01:10:39,920 --> 01:10:45,787

and not starting with things like  
policy decisions or rules or permits

952

01:10:45,811 --> 01:10:50,770

but starting to me, the thing  
that's hardest but most important

953

01:10:50,794 --> 01:10:54,402

where the resources go and  
how do we make decisions

954

01:10:54,426 --> 01:10:56,171

about where those resources go.

955

01:10:56,195 --> 01:11:04,159

And that's what Justice40 is kind

of reorienting the ship of government

956

01:11:04,159 --> 01:11:08,960

to point in a way that is  
more equitable and more just.

957

01:11:11,360 --> 01:11:14,080

Christina Motilall: Thank you, Matt.

958

01:11:14,159 --> 01:11:21,760

The next question we have is, how  
will disadvantaged community be defined?

959

01:11:21,760 --> 01:11:22,960

Matthew Tejada: Can you say  
that one more time, Christina?

960

01:11:22,960 --> 01:11:23,724

I'm sorry.

961

01:11:23,748 --> 01:11:27,368

Christina: How will disadvantaged  
community in quotation mark--

962

01:11:27,392 --> 01:11:27,836

Matthew Tejada: Yes.

963

01:11:27,860 --> 01:11:31,608

So there's-- I think there's  
a little bit of language to that

964

01:11:31,632 --> 01:11:34,907

in the actual executive order,  
it's on my shelf right there

965

01:11:34,931 --> 01:11:38,288

but I haven't read it in a few weeks,  
so I'm not going to try to quote it

966

01:11:38,312 --> 01:11:41,592

but there's a little bit of  
language in the executive order

967

01:11:41,616 --> 01:11:43,993

pointing at the disadvantaged community

968

01:11:44,017 --> 01:11:47,920

but the bigger thing though  
is that there is a commitment

969

01:11:47,920 --> 01:11:53,520

to release a climate and  
economic justice screening tool

970

01:11:53,520 --> 01:11:59,520

and that is a tool that  
will be used to actually visualize

971

01:11:59,520 --> 01:12:01,920

where are those communities.

972

01:12:01,920 --> 01:12:05,693

So there is that but again,  
that is the responsibility

973

01:12:05,717 --> 01:12:09,760

of the Council on Environmental  
Quality and OMB in the White House

974

01:12:09,760 --> 01:12:14,560

to kind of make sure that that tool gets  
out there and how that tool is crafted.

975

01:12:14,560 --> 01:12:20,000

There is a working group of the White  
House Environmental Justice Advisory Council

976

01:12:20,000 --> 01:12:24,719

which is made up of the EJ leaders and  
some academics and other folks

977

01:12:24,719 --> 01:12:30,880

who have been advising CEQ and the White House  
on that specifically, how to craft that tool

978

01:12:30,904 --> 01:12:36,028

so that's not something that EPA is going to  
determine for the entire federal government,

979

01:12:36,052 --> 01:12:40,381

that's part of the all of government  
approach of the Biden-Harris Administration,

980

01:12:40,405 --> 01:12:44,748

is the White House is really responsible  
for making sure that that tool gets out

981

01:12:44,772 --> 01:12:49,199

and how disadvantaged  
community is ultimately defined,

982

01:12:49,199 --> 01:12:54,863

that's going to be their-- that's  
their responsibility to do that

983

01:12:54,887 --> 01:12:59,868

so we're ready to help them  
think through that to the extent

984

01:12:59,892 --> 01:13:05,028

that we're needed or can be helpful but  
otherwise we're kind of in the same position

985

01:13:05,052 --> 01:13:09,343

as a lot of other federal colleagues and

everyone else, communities and states

986

01:13:09,367 --> 01:13:13,747

we're kind of waiting to see what  
that answer is because we're curious,

987

01:13:13,771 --> 01:13:21,120

we're interested but we also need it so that we  
can carry on with the implementation of Justice40.

988

01:13:22,480 --> 01:13:25,968

Victoria Robinson: Well we're going to have  
Christina do one more question from the pod

989

01:13:25,992 --> 01:13:30,068

and then we'll open up the floor  
and we'll call out folks at that time

990

01:13:30,092 --> 01:13:32,828

and then we can always go  
back to some others if we need to.

991

01:13:32,852 --> 01:13:36,533

Matthew Tejada: Yeah, thank you I've seen a few folks have had their hand up for a while.

992

01:13:36,557 --> 01:13:37,917

Christina Motilall: Yeah, absolutely.

993

01:13:37,941 --> 01:13:42,080

So very quickly before I read this other question.

994

01:13:42,080 --> 01:13:47,449

We have had a few different questions come in concerning enforcement,

995

01:13:47,473 --> 01:13:53,367

so this is kind of touching on a few questions that people have put in for that.

996

01:13:53,391 --> 01:13:58,684

Will Justice40 tackle any enforcement's efforts when they concern repeat offenders

997

01:13:58,708 --> 01:14:02,640

or an emergency alert  
system similar to AMBER Alert?

998

01:14:02,640 --> 01:14:05,680

That's the most encompassing  
enforcement question but really,

999

01:14:05,704 --> 01:14:09,028

a lot of the questions we've been getting  
is what is being done about enforcement

1000

01:14:09,052 --> 01:14:13,520

under Justice40 including  
increasing enforcement efforts.

1001

01:14:13,520 --> 01:14:18,000

Matthew Tejada: Yeah so this is-- so we  
are actually-- I think tomorrow we're getting

1002

01:14:18,000 --> 01:14:23,507

together with some folks from our Office  
of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, OECA

1003

01:14:23,531 --> 01:14:29,040

which is where the bulk  
of EPA enforcement efforts live

1004

01:14:29,040 --> 01:14:33,728

to talk through kind of how their  
program is implicated in this.

1005

01:14:33,752 --> 01:14:42,400

Justice40 though is not an initiative where  
we're making up new policies or programs,

1006

01:14:42,400 --> 01:14:45,759

those are still going to  
happen as they always have,

1007

01:14:45,783 --> 01:14:54,028

whether congress directs us to or whether congress  
gives us money specifically to or agency leadership

1008

01:14:54,052 --> 01:14:59,840

deciding they want to develop a new  
program or some new approach to something,

1009

01:14:59,840 --> 01:15:05,199

that's still going to happen as it always  
has kind of through those channels,

1010

01:15:05,199 --> 01:15:08,159

through those leadership circles.

1011

01:15:08,159 --> 01:15:14,968

So Justice40 is about looking at the  
resources that the federal government receives,

1012

01:15:14,992 --> 01:15:21,840

existing resources but also contemplating  
whether it's the American Jobs Plan

1013

01:15:21,840 --> 01:15:26,288

or what happens in reconciliation  
or in future budget years

1014

01:15:26,312 --> 01:15:31,520

if congress or somebody else gives  
us new resources for some new initiative,

1015

01:15:31,520 --> 01:15:34,908

if congress said "Yes, we need some  
sort of a notification system"

1016

01:15:34,932 --> 01:15:40,320

that was in, there were things like that  
in the president's FY22 budget proposal,

1017

01:15:40,320 --> 01:15:45,044

then those things would  
come into potentially Justice40

1018

01:15:45,068 --> 01:15:47,791

where we'd start kind of  
measuring the benefits

1019

01:15:47,815 --> 01:15:52,567

and tracking the increase of the benefits to make  
sure it's hitting a certain level or whatever else.

1020

01:15:52,591 --> 01:15:55,716

But Justice40 is not going to identify

1021

01:15:55,740 --> 01:15:59,730

"Well, there's a need for this new  
thing over here go make this new thing,

1022

01:15:59,754 --> 01:16:03,968

this new program or this new policy"  
that's not what Justice40 is doing.

1023

01:16:03,992 --> 01:16:08,560

Justice40 is looking at existing programs  
or the ones that are about to come in,

1024

01:16:08,560 --> 01:16:16,480

resources and ensuring that 40%  
of the benefits of those resources

1025

01:16:16,480 --> 01:16:18,316

benefit certain communities,

1026

01:16:18,340 --> 01:16:22,064

so it's not about developing new  
things that communities ask us for

1027

01:16:22,088 --> 01:16:23,628

not for Justice40.

1028

01:16:23,652 --> 01:16:26,640

They're still-- and if folks  
want to talk about that on these calls

1029

01:16:26,640 --> 01:16:28,677

like what are other things  
outside of Justice40, great,

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01:16:28,701 --> 01:16:30,838

like that's some of the  
feedback we want as well,

1031

01:16:30,862 --> 01:16:35,069

are there other things outside of  
Justice40 that we want to discuss

1032

01:16:35,093 --> 01:16:41,840

that folks want elevated to EPA  
leadership or somewhere else

1033

01:16:41,840 --> 01:16:49,600

but those aren't-- those aren't the sorts  
of asks that maybe point at Justice40.

1034

01:16:49,600 --> 01:16:53,520

Okay Justice40 is about looking at the  
programs we have, the resources we have

1035

01:16:53,520 --> 01:16:57,188

or those we're about to get through  
things like the American Jobs Plan

1036

01:16:57,212 --> 01:17:01,708

and making sure that 40% of  
the benefits of those resources

1037

01:17:01,732 --> 01:17:05,520

go to certain communities.

1038

01:17:08,400 --> 01:17:10,248

Victoria Robinson: All  
right, thank you Matt.

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01:17:10,272 --> 01:17:16,388

We're now going to actually now  
have our oral comments, questions.

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01:17:16,412 --> 01:17:22,428

The first person up I'm going  
to ask you to unmute your line

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01:17:22,452 --> 01:17:27,520

and that is Jay Lane, l-a-n-e.

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01:17:27,520 --> 01:17:34,719

If you're gonna unmute your line and feel  
free to go ahead and ask your question.

1043

01:17:41,760 --> 01:17:43,248

Are you able to unmute your--

1044

01:17:43,272 --> 01:17:47,679

Matthew Tejada: Yeah, I still see  
the red light muted thing next to her.

1045

01:17:47,679 --> 01:17:51,280

Victoria Robinson: Yeah okay, so  
just in case they've stepped away

1046

01:17:51,280 --> 01:17:56,960

I'm going to go ahead and ask the  
next person Tia Tanaka.

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01:17:56,960 --> 01:18:01,679

I'm asking you to go  
ahead and unmute your line.

1048

01:18:01,679 --> 01:18:03,760

So go ahead.

1049

01:18:03,760 --> 01:18:06,400

Can you do that?

1050

01:18:07,600 --> 01:18:10,417

Tia Tanaka: Hello, can you hear me?

1051

01:18:10,441 --> 01:18:11,760

Matthew Tejada: Yeah, Tia.

1052

01:18:11,760 --> 01:18:14,828

Tia Tanaka: So I didn't see anything for air emissions.

1053

01:18:14,852 --> 01:18:20,308

Is there any program here that we could-- communities can apply for grants

1054

01:18:20,332 --> 01:18:26,159

to address air emissions? And I'm specifically referring to ethylene oxide.

1055

01:18:26,159 --> 01:18:30,988

Matthew Tejada: Yeah so, the air program will feature,

1056

01:18:31,012 --> 01:18:34,283

I think fairly heavily-- I mean it is a big program at EPA

1057

01:18:34,307 --> 01:18:40,539

the Diesel Emission Reduction Act

program is an air pollution program,

1058

01:18:40,563 --> 01:18:42,480

it's specific to diesel.

1059

01:18:43,360 --> 01:18:52,008

We'll see what other kind of programs of the Air  
Office come into the Justice40 implementation,

1060

01:18:52,032 --> 01:18:56,800

but I think more immediately what  
I want to make sure you're aware of

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01:18:56,800 --> 01:19:02,080

is the American Rescue Plan which gave  
EPA 100 million dollars,

1062

01:19:02,080 --> 01:19:05,120

50 million of those  
are specifically for air.

1063

01:19:05,120 --> 01:19:12,560

And I believe the plan still is that 20

million dollars will be put out for grants

1064

01:19:12,560 --> 01:19:15,771

for community air pollution monitoring,

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01:19:15,795 --> 01:19:20,588

and I think of that 20, I believe the  
plan is-- and if somebody from air is on

1066

01:19:20,612 --> 01:19:23,520

and can virtually kick me if I'm wrong,

1067

01:19:23,520 --> 01:19:27,951

I believe the plan is still that there will  
be set asides within that 20 million dollars

1068

01:19:27,975 --> 01:19:33,108

so that there's a pot for communities  
to apply to, a pot for tribes to apply to,

1069

01:19:33,132 --> 01:19:36,560

a pot for states and  
local government to apply to,

1070

01:19:36,560 --> 01:19:39,881

so that's not out on the street yet,  
they're still working on

1071

01:19:39,905 --> 01:19:44,880

and they've held-- just in the last few weeks  
they've held some public engagement sessions

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01:19:44,880 --> 01:19:46,880

to kind of talk through that.

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01:19:46,880 --> 01:19:48,719

Tia Tanaka: How can--

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01:19:48,719 --> 01:19:52,388

Matthew Tejada: So the best  
way-- the best way that I know of

1075

01:19:52,412 --> 01:19:54,188

cause we'll make sure to put it out

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01:19:54,212 --> 01:19:58,159

and Christina, the person who's been helping to moderate is in charge of it,

1077

01:19:58,159 --> 01:20:02,880

but as soon as that RFP is on the street or if we can even anticipate it

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01:20:02,880 --> 01:20:08,080

through our EJ listserv and through our social media channel on Twitter-- EPA@

1079

01:20:08,080 --> 01:20:14,167

or @EPAEnvJustice, we'll make sure folks know about it

1080

01:20:14,191 --> 01:20:20,080

so there will be information coming out but signing up for the listserv

1081

01:20:20,080 --> 01:20:23,120

or for the twitter or something, we'll be pushing information out to make sure

1082

01:20:23,120 --> 01:20:25,679

people are aware when that is open.

1083

01:20:25,679 --> 01:20:30,719

Tia Tanaka: Can you put the link  
how we can go and visit that listserv?

1084

01:20:30,719 --> 01:20:33,840

Exactly where we need  
to go because we're not--

1085

01:20:33,864 --> 01:20:35,279

Matthew Tejada: Can we  
have that on a future slide?

1086

01:20:35,280 --> 01:20:37,199

Victoria Robinson: That's on  
the very last slide when we do--

1087

01:20:37,199 --> 01:20:39,308

Matthew Tejada: Why  
don't you roll forward to that?

1088

01:20:39,332 --> 01:20:40,880

Victoria Robinson: Okay--

Tia Tanaka: Thank you.

1089

01:20:40,880 --> 01:20:44,289

Christina Motilall: And also there are some questions we've been answering aloud--

1090

01:20:44,313 --> 01:20:46,581

sorry into the chat

and it's also in there

1091

01:20:46,605 --> 01:20:49,818

but I will answer it again in

the Q&A pod answers as well.

1092

01:20:49,842 --> 01:20:51,280

Tia Tanaka: Okay, thank you very much.

1093

01:20:51,280 --> 01:20:54,088

Victoria Robinson: So right

now it's on the screen, we have--

1094

01:20:54,112 --> 01:21:04,440

well, you send a blank email to  
join-epa-ej@lists as plural.EPA.gov

1095

01:21:04,560 --> 01:21:06,748

and that's how you can join that listserv.

1096

01:21:06,772 --> 01:21:10,960

We also have a Twitter  
account in which you can follow

1097

01:21:12,960 --> 01:21:18,960

what's going on with EJ program  
at-- with the @EPAEnvJustice.

1098

01:21:18,960 --> 01:21:22,967

And if you have any questions you  
can go ahead and feel free to email,

1099

01:21:22,991 --> 01:21:25,112

I think myself or Christina.

1100

01:21:25,136 --> 01:21:26,308

Tia Tanaka: Thank you very much.

1101

01:21:26,332 --> 01:21:28,000

Matthew Tejada: You're welcome.

1102

01:21:28,000 --> 01:21:30,474

Victoria Robinson: I'm gonna move  
the slides back and remember Matthew--

1103

01:21:30,498 --> 01:21:32,719

Matthew Tejada: No this  
is a better one to leave up.

1104

01:21:32,719 --> 01:21:33,761

Victoria Robinson: Oh okay, all right.

1105

01:21:33,785 --> 01:21:36,000

Matthew Tejada: This one up,  
this has the information people need.

1106

01:21:36,000 --> 01:21:39,468

Victoria Robinson: Okay and then don't forget

we also have the upcoming at five minutes

1107

01:21:39,492 --> 01:21:41,679

till we need to do the  
upcoming engagements.

1108

01:21:41,679 --> 01:21:44,480

Matthew Tejada: Gotcha, okay  
so we've got about a half hour, yeah?

1109

01:21:44,480 --> 01:21:45,968

Victoria Robinson: Yes, indeedy.

1110

01:21:45,992 --> 01:21:46,480

Matthew Tejada: All right.

1111

01:21:46,480 --> 01:21:49,120

All right so let's--

1112

01:21:49,120 --> 01:21:51,208

were you calling him  
or is Christina calling?

1113

01:21:51,232 --> 01:21:52,852

I think you were.

1114

01:21:52,876 --> 01:21:53,440

Victoria Robinson: I am.

1115

01:21:53,440 --> 01:21:59,853

So I'm going to now ask Jay  
Lane to see if they're available

1116

01:21:59,877 --> 01:22:04,639

to still--to unmute  
themselves, Jay Lane.

1117

01:22:04,639 --> 01:22:07,600

Are you able to unmute?

1118

01:22:08,080 --> 01:22:09,495

Matthew Tejada: We lost Jay Lane.

1119

01:22:09,519 --> 01:22:12,028

Victoria Robinson: Yeah, okay

I'm going to move to Gloria Charland

1120

01:22:12,052 --> 01:22:17,120

and I'm hoping I'm pronouncing  
your name correctly, so I'm asking--

1121

01:22:17,120 --> 01:22:19,208

Matthew Tejada: I think Jay  
Lane just came off me hold on,

1122

01:22:19,232 --> 01:22:21,360

Victoria Robinson: Oh all  
right, thank you, go ahead Jay Lane.

1123

01:22:21,360 --> 01:22:24,543

Jay Lane: Oh no you told me to unmute  
but I missed what I was supposed to--

1124

01:22:24,567 --> 01:22:26,148

was there a question? I'm sorry.

1125

01:22:26,172 --> 01:22:27,914

Victoria Robinson: Well, you

raised your hand and so we were--

1126

01:22:27,938 --> 01:22:29,960

Jay Lane: I did, oh I didn't  
intentionally do that.

1127

01:22:29,960 --> 01:22:32,800

[LAUGHS]

1128

01:22:32,800 --> 01:22:33,548

Matthew Tejada: All right.

1129

01:22:33,572 --> 01:22:33,934

Victoria Robinson: Okay.

1130

01:22:33,958 --> 01:22:37,200

Jay Lane: Let me get it off, I'm out of  
here I was pressing buttons to miniaturize

1131

01:22:37,224 --> 01:22:38,288

and I press the wrong one.

1132

01:22:38,312 --> 01:22:40,286

Victoria Robinson: I'll go ahead and mute you.

1133

01:22:40,310 --> 01:22:41,588

Jay Lane: Thank you, dear.

1134

01:22:41,612 --> 01:22:43,360

Victoria Robinson: Okay, great.

1135

01:22:43,360 --> 01:22:48,880

Gloria can you go ahead  
and unmute yourself?

1136

01:22:48,880 --> 01:22:52,428

Gloria Charland: Hi, so I  
put my question in the chat.

1137

01:22:52,452 --> 01:22:58,048

We have a documented  
case of environmental injustice here

1138

01:22:58,072 --> 01:23:04,080

in Lake County, Illinois

with the ethylene oxide emissions

1139

01:23:04,080 --> 01:23:13,280

and where the Trump's EPA  
deliberately did not follow protocol

1140

01:23:13,280 --> 01:23:18,320

and I think it's wonderful  
that we can attempt to apply for grants

1141

01:23:18,320 --> 01:23:21,142

and we can go lobby  
our local governments

1142

01:23:21,166 --> 01:23:23,793

and try to get them to apply for grants

1143

01:23:23,817 --> 01:23:27,907

but can't we just get somebody  
here from the EPA to handle this

1144

01:23:27,931 --> 01:23:34,159

instead of putting all these

barriers on the community?

1145

01:23:34,159 --> 01:23:35,752

Matthew Tejada: Thanks, Gloria.

1146

01:23:35,776 --> 01:23:40,068

I don't think I was on-- I've been on a  
lot of the calls we've been doing recently

1147

01:23:40,092 --> 01:23:45,679

concerning ethylene oxide,  
I was not on the Lake County one,

1148

01:23:45,679 --> 01:23:50,639

although I'm aware of  
the issues in Lake County.

1149

01:23:50,639 --> 01:23:55,600

I guess what I can share  
right now is ethylene oxide

1150

01:23:55,600 --> 01:24:00,988

even though it is primarily impacting

a certain number of communities

1151

01:24:01,012 --> 01:24:07,760

across the United States, it is of the  
highest priority for this administration,

1152

01:24:07,760 --> 01:24:15,040

there is a lot of attention and  
a lot of work pointed right at

1153

01:24:15,040 --> 01:24:18,238

working on ethylene  
oxide and its regulations

1154

01:24:18,262 --> 01:24:24,636

and ensuring that it is not posing a  
risk to those impacted communities,

1155

01:24:24,660 --> 01:24:29,965

many of which are already  
overburdened in vulnerable communities.

1156

01:24:29,989 --> 01:24:35,568

So if you haven't been a part of  
those conversations that we've had

1157

01:24:35,592 --> 01:24:41,679

with community folks or if you haven't  
engaged with some of our folks either

1158

01:24:41,679 --> 01:24:47,760

our Air Division or our EJ leads in  
Region 5 in Chicago,

1159

01:24:47,760 --> 01:24:50,960

then we can make sure  
that you are looped into those,

1160

01:24:50,960 --> 01:24:54,528

but there's not much more  
I can say about it right now

1161

01:24:54,552 --> 01:24:59,028

because it is-- the ethylene oxide  
stuff is being handled way above me

1162

01:24:59,052 --> 01:25:04,000

but it is a national priority  
for this administration.

1163

01:25:04,000 --> 01:25:06,239

Gloria Charland: Okay, so that's great.

1164

01:25:06,263 --> 01:25:11,360

Ethylene oxide is a priority,  
environmental justice is a priority

1165

01:25:11,360 --> 01:25:16,068

and in Waukegan and east  
Gurnee we have got two plants

1166

01:25:16,092 --> 01:25:21,360

within three miles of each  
other and six off-gassing warehouses,

1167

01:25:21,360 --> 01:25:25,508

I really want us to be on  
the top of that priority list.

1168

01:25:25,532 --> 01:25:30,159

Matthew Tejada: We are well aware of those sites, is what I'd say.

1169

01:25:30,159 --> 01:25:35,148

Those are not on any list, those are absolutely on everyone's radar.

1170

01:25:35,172 --> 01:25:36,680

Gloria Charland: Very good, thank you so much.

1171

01:25:36,704 --> 01:25:39,120

Matthew Tejada: Thanks, Gloria.

1172

01:25:39,120 --> 01:25:40,677

Victoria Robinson: Next up is Marie.

1173

01:25:40,701 --> 01:25:43,207

I've now allowed you to talk

1174

01:25:43,231 --> 01:25:47,360

and I'm asking for you to unmute

your line if you're available, Marie.

1175

01:25:47,360 --> 01:25:49,268

Marie: Hi, can you hear me?

1176

01:25:49,292 --> 01:25:49,920

Matthew Tejada: Yup.

Victoria Robinson: Yes.

1177

01:25:49,920 --> 01:25:55,679

Marie: Hi, well this is timely because Gloria  
just had a question about ethylene oxide

1178

01:25:55,679 --> 01:25:58,068

and you guys answered it.

1179

01:25:58,092 --> 01:26:02,000

My question is how do we  
become part of those talks

1180

01:26:02,000 --> 01:26:05,627

because there are many people here  
in Lake County that are very concerned

1181

01:26:05,651 --> 01:26:12,488

with ethylene oxide and the lack of-- I  
guess what we feel is action on our behalf,

1182

01:26:12,512 --> 01:26:21,199

so how do we get involved in those  
discussions? Because we are not aware of it.

1183

01:26:21,199 --> 01:26:24,668

Matthew Tejada: Yeah,  
if you're not aware of it,

1184

01:26:24,692 --> 01:26:28,560

if your colleagues are not aware of  
it, you can you can email that address

1185

01:26:28,560 --> 01:26:31,040

that's on the bottom  
of the screen right now.

1186

01:26:31,040 --> 01:26:35,440

You can email me directly if you want

and just a little secret for everyone,

1187

01:26:35,440 --> 01:26:39,840

unless you've got a really normal name  
like Charles Smith,

1188

01:26:39,840 --> 01:26:46,320

everyone's email at EPA is  
their lastname.firstname@epa.gov,

1189

01:26:46,320 --> 01:26:51,159

so you can email me directly,  
it's Tejada my name's right here,

1190

01:26:51,159 --> 01:26:54,080

Tejada.matthew@epa.gov

1191

01:26:54,080 --> 01:26:58,000

and I'll make sure that the folks who  
are in charge of those connect with you

1192

01:26:58,000 --> 01:27:01,428

and connect with any of your other

community colleagues or neighbors

1193

01:27:01,452 --> 01:27:06,639

to make sure folks are in on  
what is happening in the information.

1194

01:27:06,639 --> 01:27:11,080

Marie: Okay so that was  
Tejada.matthew@-- I'm sorry epa.gov?

1195

01:27:11,080 --> 01:27:13,120

Matthew Tejada: Epa.gov, yep.

1196

01:27:13,120 --> 01:27:16,808

Marie: Okay and then I  
do have one other question

1197

01:27:16,832 --> 01:27:22,000

or maybe something I would like to raise  
and I appreciate the opportunity to do so.

1198

01:27:23,520 --> 01:27:27,107

When we-- there was someone

that has to question about air

1199

01:27:27,131 --> 01:27:30,639

and we were basically

told to go to Region 5

1200

01:27:30,639 --> 01:27:37,520

which is the head region of the Midwest,

which is the region that actually got us

1201

01:27:37,520 --> 01:27:43,120

into this situation and so I am

concerned that we are just in a loop

1202

01:27:43,120 --> 01:27:52,159

of being told to go back to the very region

that hasn't done much for us and our issue

1203

01:27:52,159 --> 01:27:58,074

because we have known about this

ethylene oxide in Lake County since 2019

1204

01:27:58,098 --> 01:28:03,679

and we still are not getting  
the kind of responses we need to get

1205

01:28:03,679 --> 01:28:08,159

from the Illinois EPA and Region 5.

1206

01:28:08,159 --> 01:28:10,365

Matthew Tejada: I hear you, Marie.

1207

01:28:10,389 --> 01:28:17,040

Before I came to EPA I ran up an  
air quality EJ organization in Houston

1208

01:28:19,280 --> 01:28:21,727

and I didn't always get along with  
Region 6 when I was in Houston,

1209

01:28:21,751 --> 01:28:26,740

I'll just say it that way  
but what I was--

1210

01:28:26,764 --> 01:28:32,560

but one of the things I

learned once I came to EPA

1211

01:28:32,560 --> 01:28:38,960

was not just the critical role  
that our regional offices play

1212

01:28:38,984 --> 01:28:44,800

because they really are on the front  
lines for us and engaging with communities

1213

01:28:44,800 --> 01:28:48,960

in developing those relationships with states,

1214

01:28:48,960 --> 01:28:54,788

and none of this-- please, don't take any of  
this as dismissive of what you just shared,

1215

01:28:54,812 --> 01:28:58,806

I'm trying to-- I hope what I'm  
saying is that I completely hear you

1216

01:28:58,830 --> 01:29:03,120

and both empathize and

understand with what you shared.

1217

01:29:04,719 --> 01:29:09,920

But we are working very closely  
with our regional colleagues,

1218

01:29:09,920 --> 01:29:15,440

I think our regional colleagues and I think  
I see a couple of them on the line right now,

1219

01:29:16,080 --> 01:29:20,239

I think they have faced some of the  
same difficulties that all of us at EPA

1220

01:29:20,239 --> 01:29:27,360

have faced over recent years and  
with an issue again like ethylene oxide,

1221

01:29:27,360 --> 01:29:32,400

even though you'll interface  
a lot with the regional folks,

1222

01:29:33,679 --> 01:29:36,788

they are not out there working  
ethylene oxide on their own,

1223

01:29:36,812 --> 01:29:40,665

it is an issue that is being  
coordinated and directed

1224

01:29:40,689 --> 01:29:45,120

across the entire United  
States from EPA on high.

1225

01:29:45,120 --> 01:29:50,880

And also, whether it's  
ethylene oxide or any other issue,

1226

01:29:50,880 --> 01:29:58,159

especially community members who are being  
impacted, who are disproportionately burdened,

1227

01:29:58,159 --> 01:30:03,440

if for any issue in any  
part of the United States,

1228

01:30:03,440 --> 01:30:10,880

if you feel like you are not getting  
attention from our regional colleagues

1229

01:30:10,880 --> 01:30:16,320

or if you feel like there's not responsiveness  
or that something needs to be elevated

1230

01:30:16,320 --> 01:30:18,788

or that we need to rethink something,

1231

01:30:18,812 --> 01:30:22,123

that's part of the reason why  
the EJ program exists,

1232

01:30:22,147 --> 01:30:27,920

it means you have another  
pathway, the EJ program is here

1233

01:30:27,920 --> 01:30:33,011

to hear from, to listen to  
what the community needs,

1234

01:30:33,035 --> 01:30:36,775

the voice of the community  
and to project that into the agency

1235

01:30:36,799 --> 01:30:43,120

when the community folks can't walk  
into the agency or can't sit in the room,

1236

01:30:43,120 --> 01:30:47,728

for us to say "Hey, region whoever,  
this community is asking for help,

1237

01:30:47,752 --> 01:30:49,588

why aren't you helping  
them? What's going on?

1238

01:30:49,612 --> 01:30:51,828

How can we help you? How can we  
do this differently?

1239

01:30:51,852 --> 01:30:54,880

How can we go talk to the  
state? What else can be done?"

1240

01:30:54,880 --> 01:31:00,159

So please, there's that  
email there, you've got my email.

1241

01:31:00,159 --> 01:31:00,690

Marie: Okay.

1242

01:31:00,714 --> 01:31:02,239

If there's a way that we can help,

1243

01:31:02,239 --> 01:31:08,320

if you feel like you're not getting the  
satisfaction you need or deserve, don't be silent.

1244

01:31:08,320 --> 01:31:15,437

It is a truism of the world but  
especially in EJ the squeaky wheel--

1245

01:31:15,461 --> 01:31:19,268

be that squeaky wheel, like  
don't let us off the hook,

1246

01:31:19,292 --> 01:31:25,408

don't go feeling like you're not getting  
what you need or that you're not included

1247

01:31:25,432 --> 01:31:29,408

or you're not being heard, that's  
our job, that's the EJ program's job

1248

01:31:29,432 --> 01:31:32,239

is to make sure  
people are being heard.

1249

01:31:32,239 --> 01:31:33,720

Marie: Thank you, Matthew.

1250

01:31:33,744 --> 01:31:37,508

I appreciate that  
sentiment, it means a lot.

1251

01:31:37,532 --> 01:31:42,887

We have-- I will just say this Illinois has  
passed some laws regarding ethylene oxide

1252

01:31:42,911 --> 01:31:49,132

and unfortunately there are loopholes  
that favor the polluters to be honest

1253

01:31:49,156 --> 01:31:53,825

and this year we tried to get  
legislation passed to fix those loopholes

1254

01:31:53,849 --> 01:32:00,688

and it was the Illinois EPA Director  
John Kim that actually killed the law

1255

01:32:00,712 --> 01:32:03,280

that we were trying to get past.

1256

01:32:03,280 --> 01:32:08,788

So it was bill-- I think 2385 if I  
recall up the top of my head

1257

01:32:08,812 --> 01:32:14,159

and I could be getting the number wrong where  
we were trying to get independent reporting

1258

01:32:14,159 --> 01:32:20,607

and taking away the polluters  
for handling that information

1259

01:32:20,631 --> 01:32:27,352

and John Kim-- Director John Kim got  
on the conference call with a polluter

1260

01:32:27,376 --> 01:32:32,719

and basically said that this  
bill did not need to move forward.

1261

01:32:32,719 --> 01:32:38,429

So I don't know if you want that  
information, if you want that video

1262

01:32:38,453 --> 01:32:42,320

if you want the direct  
wording that he has

1263

01:32:42,320 --> 01:32:48,208

but this is how we are being squashed  
when we're trying to get justice

1264

01:32:48,232 --> 01:32:55,187

for the people that don't have the voice, that  
don't have the ability to raise their hand

1265

01:32:55,211 --> 01:32:57,646

and make these meetings  
or even understand it.

1266

01:32:57,670 --> 01:33:01,840

Moms that are getting breast  
cancer, kids that are getting leukemia

1267

01:33:01,840 --> 01:33:07,788

and we're not getting help from the EPA, at the  
state level it feels like even at the federal level.

1268

01:33:07,812 --> 01:33:10,707

So I'm going to  
leave you with one last question

1269

01:33:10,731 --> 01:33:13,360

and I feel like I'm  
taking up a lot of time,

1270

01:33:13,360 --> 01:33:19,188

but if the administration is  
looking at this ethylene oxide issue,

1271

01:33:19,212 --> 01:33:22,299

when can we expect  
real action to be had?

1272

01:33:22,323 --> 01:33:27,947

Because we've been hearing about this for  
two years and we're not getting anything.

1273

01:33:27,971 --> 01:33:31,197

Matthew Tejada: That's a  
good question, I don't know

1274

01:33:31,221 --> 01:33:36,766

but that's-- if there is something to  
know there, I'm going to go find out.

1275

01:33:36,790 --> 01:33:39,120

I'm not sure exactly what are--

1276

01:33:39,120 --> 01:33:43,735

I'm not sure where leadership is  
right now on ethylene oxide

1277

01:33:43,759 --> 01:33:49,199

in terms of decisions they might  
be framing up in front of them.

1278

01:33:51,520 --> 01:33:56,639

Well, I don't know how  
to say this in a way, it is--

1279

01:33:56,639 --> 01:34:01,851

when I say ethylene oxide is a national priority  
I don't just mean like it's on the radar

1280

01:34:01,875 --> 01:34:03,568

with a billion other things.

1281

01:34:03,592 --> 01:34:08,800

Ethylene oxide is one of the most important  
issues EPA is looking at right now.

1282

01:34:08,800 --> 01:34:14,080

So it is not being taken lightly  
in any respect,

1283

01:34:14,080 --> 01:34:18,800

so I don't know exactly when or  
what action the agency is going to take.

1284

01:34:19,840 --> 01:34:27,920

But the seriousness with which we  
have heard from many folks like you

1285

01:34:27,920 --> 01:34:31,688

is at least from where I sit in EPA,

1286

01:34:31,712 --> 01:34:36,679

is being reflected in terms of the  
seriousness with which folks are handling this

1287

01:34:36,703 --> 01:34:46,400

and are working towards some sort  
of an action or a direction to take on it.

1288

01:34:46,400 --> 01:34:47,679

Marie: Okay.

1289

01:34:47,679 --> 01:34:48,548

Thank you, Matthew.

1290

01:34:48,572 --> 01:34:53,135

You'll be getting an email from our  
group with information on John Kim

1291

01:34:53,159 --> 01:34:56,387

because I do think it's very  
important for you to read

1292

01:34:56,411 --> 01:35:01,408

what the EPA is doing at a  
regional level to hurt citizens

1293

01:35:01,432 --> 01:35:06,988

that are relying on the government  
to regulate these dangerous chemicals

1294

01:35:07,012 --> 01:35:11,360

that we weren't even aware that we  
were breathing up until about two years ago.

1295

01:35:11,360 --> 01:35:14,598

Matthew Tejada: Sure and  
I'll visit with our regional folks,

1296

01:35:14,622 --> 01:35:17,288

I'm gonna bet they already  
know what you're talking about,

1297

01:35:17,312 --> 01:35:19,468

but I haven't read it, so  
please do send it to me

1298

01:35:19,492 --> 01:35:22,899

and I'll be visiting with  
our Region 5 folks about it.

1299

01:35:22,923 --> 01:35:26,768

I've been spending all my time  
on ETO with our Region 6 folks

1300

01:35:26,792 --> 01:35:31,040

so it's about time that I talk to  
the Region 5 folks about it too.

1301

01:35:31,040 --> 01:35:34,400

Yeah, absolutely send it to me.

1302

01:35:34,424 --> 01:35:36,319

Marie: Thanks.

Matthew Tejada: Thanks, Marie.

1303

01:35:36,320 --> 01:35:41,280

Victoria Robinson: Next  
person is Keith Steck.

1304

01:35:41,280 --> 01:35:45,520

If you can unmute  
yourself that'd be great.

1305

01:35:45,520 --> 01:35:47,728

Keith Steck: Hi,  
can you hear me?

1306

01:35:47,752 --> 01:35:48,480

Victoria Robinson: Yes.

Matthew Tejada: Yes, Keith.

1307

01:35:48,480 --> 01:35:50,960

Keith Steck: Hi, thank you.

1308

01:35:50,960 --> 01:35:55,708

I'm really interested in  
understanding the--

1309

01:35:55,732 --> 01:36:02,007

I think people need to understand  
that the Clean Water Act

1310

01:36:02,031 --> 01:36:07,360

and the clean water revolving  
fund, drinking water revolving fund--

1311

01:36:07,360 --> 01:36:13,677

My understanding is private companies  
can get money, limited pools of money

1312

01:36:13,701 --> 01:36:15,128

through the project.

1313

01:36:15,152 --> 01:36:21,360

I'm in Delaware, a very small state, we have  
a very small relatively speaking pool of money

1314

01:36:21,360 --> 01:36:25,360

and some money is  
going to private companies

1315

01:36:25,360 --> 01:36:32,180

though there are other projects out  
there that I believe are more deserving

1316

01:36:32,204 --> 01:36:38,239

than multi-million dollar companies  
getting some of this money.

1317

01:36:38,239 --> 01:36:47,796

That's one issue, also I believe people might  
want to delve down into their own organizations,

1318

01:36:47,820 --> 01:36:50,800

I find within the--

1319

01:36:50,800 --> 01:36:57,199

what we call DNREC the division of-- the  
Department of Environmental Quality essentially,

1320

01:36:57,199 --> 01:37:03,459

there are a lot of obscure but powerful  
organizations one of which is a lot--

1321

01:37:03,483 --> 01:37:07,600

here is the Water  
Infrastructure Advisory Council

1322

01:37:07,600 --> 01:37:14,448

that directs the funding for public  
projects, publicly funded projects.

1323

01:37:14,472 --> 01:37:18,348

Most people, I'd say 99.9%  
of people in the state

1324

01:37:18,372 --> 01:37:24,470

have no clue and I'm wondering  
if other states have these obscure

1325

01:37:24,494 --> 01:37:30,080

but powerful organizations  
that direct funding to projects.

1326

01:37:30,080 --> 01:37:34,808

So people might want to take a look  
within their organizational structure

1327

01:37:34,832 --> 01:37:38,880

to see if there's something  
like that out there.

1328

01:37:38,880 --> 01:37:40,467

Matthew Tejada: Yeah, thank you.

1329

01:37:40,491 --> 01:37:44,719

To your first point, Keith which I  
guess is related to the second point,

1330

01:37:46,400 --> 01:37:51,628

when I came to EPA a little over eight  
years ago, I had not dealt with water at all

1331

01:37:51,652 --> 01:37:53,101

and I am still learning

1332

01:37:53,125 --> 01:37:57,679

and there are vast, vast swathes of  
that universe that I still don't understand,

1333

01:37:57,679 --> 01:38:00,888

like when we start getting  
into the financing and there's--

1334

01:38:00,912 --> 01:38:04,956

I mean there's a whole bucket of different  
financing mechanisms and instruments

1335

01:38:04,980 --> 01:38:06,560

and all sorts of things.

1336

01:38:08,000 --> 01:38:11,688

I still don't-- I have  
intended to grasp on it,

1337

01:38:11,712 --> 01:38:15,760

So, I one of the things I'm taking which  
is something we were already thinking of

1338

01:38:15,760 --> 01:38:20,159

but it's nice to--  
I think hear you confirm it is that

1339

01:38:20,159 --> 01:38:25,520

in one of these sessions very soon, it  
might be good to devote a big chunk of time

1340

01:38:25,520 --> 01:38:29,708

having Yu Ting and Frank and some  
of her other water colleagues try to do,

1341

01:38:29,732 --> 01:38:34,000

try to lay out that universe a little bit  
so that folks can better understand it

1342

01:38:34,000 --> 01:38:36,159

because it is a complex place.

1343

01:38:36,159 --> 01:38:39,760

Hopefully that will

also to your second point--

1344

01:38:39,760 --> 01:38:43,527

absolutely, again going back

to when I used to be in Houston,

1345

01:38:43,551 --> 01:38:46,288

I never knew there was such a

thing as a council of government,

1346

01:38:46,312 --> 01:38:50,314

I think a lot of folks don't realize there

are these things called council of governments

1347

01:38:50,338 --> 01:38:55,920

but just how influential they are in

what happens at the community level,

1348

01:38:55,920 --> 01:39:02,239

where money gets spent, whether it winds  
up with a private holder or something else,

1349

01:39:02,239 --> 01:39:08,068

so that's something that we can work to try  
to raise everyone's capacity and understanding,

1350

01:39:08,092 --> 01:39:11,280

how that world actually works.

1351

01:39:11,280 --> 01:39:16,027

Keith Steck: Yes, because these are  
public bodies and they have public meetings,

1352

01:39:16,051 --> 01:39:20,268

most 99% of the time nobody's around  
but occasionally a few of us are there

1353

01:39:20,292 --> 01:39:23,908

and they know we're watching,  
so they're mindful of things

1354

01:39:23,932 --> 01:39:26,800

and I'm not sure that they were before.

1355

01:39:26,800 --> 01:39:31,961

So if you could put up a contact  
person's name for the Office of Water

1356

01:39:31,985 --> 01:39:38,639

on the both, the drinking funding clean  
water revolving fund sites or in general.

1357

01:39:38,639 --> 01:39:39,679

Matthew Tejada: Yeah we can.

1358

01:39:39,679 --> 01:39:43,159

Hold on, my daughter's trying to get in-- I  
need to unlock the door real quick.

1359

01:39:43,183 --> 01:39:44,158

[LAUGHS]

1360

01:39:44,159 --> 01:39:47,068

Victoria Robinson: And Keith, while  
he's doing that just to let you know

1361

01:39:47,092 --> 01:39:50,468

and those who have  
questions about water--

1362

01:39:50,492 --> 01:39:57,375

the Office of Water has three pilot  
programs and they are tentatively scheduled

1363

01:39:57,399 --> 01:40:02,286

to have an engagement call like  
this, scheduled for September 28th

1364

01:40:02,310 --> 01:40:06,548

and that will be which-- their  
programs will be the focus of that call.

1365

01:40:06,572 --> 01:40:07,341

Keith Steck: Okay.

1366

01:40:07,365 --> 01:40:11,468

Victoria Robinson: I'm just letting  
you know and then we'll--

1367

01:40:11,492 --> 01:40:15,268

In the Q&A pod, I think  
they're going to put up possibly

1368

01:40:15,292 --> 01:40:18,741

a point of contact  
for the water stuff.

1369

01:40:18,765 --> 01:40:21,188

Keith Steck: Okay, great thank you.

1370

01:40:21,212 --> 01:40:23,600

Victoria Robinson: You're welcome, thank you.

1371

01:40:23,600 --> 01:40:29,679

All right next up is Crystal R.

1372

01:40:29,679 --> 01:40:34,000

if you're-- if you

want-- there you are.

1373

01:40:34,000 --> 01:40:37,840

Go ahead and unmute yourself, Crystal.

1374

01:40:38,239 --> 01:40:42,108

Crystal R.: I apologize if I  
raised my hand I didn't have--

1375

01:40:42,132 --> 01:40:45,199

Matthew Tejada: Another  
one? [LAUGHS] Another one?

1376

01:40:45,199 --> 01:40:46,068

That's okay, Crystal.

1377

01:40:46,092 --> 01:40:47,920

Thank you for being on.

1378

01:40:47,920 --> 01:40:50,094

Victoria Robinson: Okay,  
no problem, thank you.

1379

01:40:50,118 --> 01:40:54,480

We'll now you move to Yvette Are--

Matthew Tejada: Arellano.

1380

01:40:55,440 --> 01:40:57,487

Victoria Robinson: Thank you

very much, I'm very bad about that

1381

01:40:57,511 --> 01:41:00,800

I know the double L, I know that's

a Y sound but I couldn't do the rest.

1382

01:41:00,800 --> 01:41:05,360

So Yvette, go ahead and unmute.

1383

01:41:05,360 --> 01:41:06,639

Yvette Arellano: --afternoon.

1384

01:41:06,639 --> 01:41:10,763

Matthew Tejada: Yvette, I've been

speaking slow all afternoon because of you,

1385

01:41:10,787 --> 01:41:14,159

because what you said at  
the NEJAC stuck with me.

1386

01:41:14,159 --> 01:41:15,050

Yvette Arellano: Thanks, Matt.

1387

01:41:15,074 --> 01:41:17,736

I was actually gonna say that again,  
you should probably--

1388

01:41:17,760 --> 01:41:21,690

it's all the last translator over there  
kind of wanting you to slow down

1389

01:41:21,714 --> 01:41:23,691

Matthew Tejada: Can I get  
fast again? Really?

1390

01:41:24,639 --> 01:41:30,080

Yvette Arellano: Little bits, here and  
there but here's my comment and question.

1391

01:41:31,520 --> 01:41:35,199

One, I really enjoyed  
the presentation,

1392

01:41:35,199 --> 01:41:41,568

I hope that the next couple of  
calls we can have a powerpoint

1393

01:41:41,592 --> 01:41:47,132

or a visual representation of what you're  
saying so it's easier to follow along with it

1394

01:41:47,156 --> 01:41:52,960

because it's all essential and  
important to us in the communities.

1395

01:41:52,960 --> 01:41:57,679

Second-- and this is a point  
that was made during NEJAC,

1396

01:41:57,679 --> 01:42:03,908

most people doing work on the ground have  
barriers to accessing funds like Justice40.

1397

01:42:03,932 --> 01:42:08,966

So EJ and the grassroots,  
we aren't [UNINTELLIGIBLE] resources

1398

01:42:08,990 --> 01:42:12,320

and I want EPA to remember that--

1399

01:42:12,320 --> 01:42:17,005

The resources Justice40 is attempting  
to flush into communities--

1400

01:42:17,029 --> 01:42:24,480

shouldn't be there to promote us continuing  
to do the work that EPA should do.

1401

01:42:24,480 --> 01:42:32,205

And then here in Houston just last month,  
we had two different chemical incidences,

1402

01:42:32,229 --> 01:42:39,286

July 21st 2020 at 7 AM, the Dow  
Chemical plant had a chemical event

1403

01:42:39,310 --> 01:42:43,920

and there was a voluntary  
evacuation within a half mile

1404

01:42:43,920 --> 01:42:46,639

and they issued a shelter in place.

1405

01:42:46,639 --> 01:42:52,800

The second one was Tuesday, July 27th at  
the Lyondellbasel plant

1406

01:42:52,800 --> 01:42:55,903

and there were two dead and 30 hospitalized.

1407

01:42:55,927 --> 01:43:01,520

It released a hundred thousand  
pounds of a chemical mixture.

1408

01:43:01,520 --> 01:43:10,960

So what I'd like to ask now is, will Justice40  
make moves to at least reestablish EPA Labs

1409

01:43:10,960 --> 01:43:15,440

that were closed under  
the Trump administration?

1410

01:43:15,440 --> 01:43:24,508

And my last comment is, I need  
the EJ Community Engagement Office

1411

01:43:24,532 --> 01:43:31,280

or the EJ office to begin  
having sessions explaining to us,

1412

01:43:31,280 --> 01:43:34,960

how do chemical pollutants become NAAQS,

1413

01:43:34,960 --> 01:43:40,995

so that we can assure the protection of our  
communities and add chemicals to those lists.

1414

01:43:41,019 --> 01:43:47,891

So it would be great to have learning sessions  
so that we don't just take away opportunities

1415

01:43:47,915 --> 01:43:54,239

of funding but also take away  
information that is at EPA's disposal.

1416

01:43:54,239 --> 01:43:58,480

Matthew Tejada: Okay, can  
we go through those real quickly

1417

01:43:58,480 --> 01:44:01,280

because you had like four  
and I was trying to get them.

1418

01:44:01,280 --> 01:44:08,560

The NAAQS as far as I understand  
and I can-- we can find that out,

1419

01:44:08,560 --> 01:44:12,955

I don't know if the NAAQS are  
determined through rule or through statute

1420

01:44:12,979 --> 01:44:16,110

but it's not-- I don't think it's a  
thing we could just pop on there,

1421

01:44:16,134 --> 01:44:19,388

I think it's either through  
a rule-making process,

1422

01:44:19,412 --> 01:44:22,400

although something in the back of my  
head is telling me that they're actually

1423

01:44:22,400 --> 01:44:25,760

determined by statute, they're not just  
something we can say well that's an NAAQS

1424

01:44:25,760 --> 01:44:27,520

and that's an NAAQS.

1425

01:44:28,960 --> 01:44:32,239

And can you remind me of the  
other ones real quick, Yvette?

1426

01:44:32,239 --> 01:44:37,807

Yvette Arellano: Sure, will

Justice40 go to reestablishing any EPA labs--

1427

01:44:37,831 --> 01:44:41,840

Matthew Tejada: Yeah the labs, that's not the sort of thing that Justice40 is going to do.

1428

01:44:41,840 --> 01:44:50,880

The labs weren't shut down, the Houston lab was moved--I think to Tulsa

1429

01:44:50,880 --> 01:44:56,800

and those were-- those are just executive decisions that the last administration

1430

01:44:56,800 --> 01:45:00,148

made those decisions to take the funding that congress gives us

1431

01:45:00,172 --> 01:45:03,929

and they decided to take that and move it somewhere else

1432

01:45:03,953 --> 01:45:08,327

because I think they were trying to combine some different labs for efficiencies

1433

01:45:08,351 --> 01:45:12,340

in terms of staff and I don't  
know-- I was not involved in that

1434

01:45:12,364 --> 01:45:17,600

but that's not the sort of thing that  
Justice40 is getting at like where--

1435

01:45:17,600 --> 01:45:20,649

well, I guess it could-- I mean that is  
just a resource decision

1436

01:45:20,673 --> 01:45:24,800

and where did the resources go--  
I don't think that's like the front line

1437

01:45:24,800 --> 01:45:26,688

of what we're thinking about in Justice40.

1438

01:45:26,712 --> 01:45:28,960

We're thinking more  
about like grants,

1439

01:45:28,960 --> 01:45:34,800

like the staff hours of inspectors showing up  
in places or technical assistance provision,

1440

01:45:34,800 --> 01:45:38,719

I don't think we're really  
contemplating yet where do the staff

1441

01:45:38,719 --> 01:45:43,360

of federal agencies sit physically  
across the United States.

1442

01:45:43,360 --> 01:45:46,560

Although that's an-- I hadn't even  
really considered that,

1443

01:45:46,560 --> 01:45:51,667

so that's something we should bring  
up with CEQ and other folks

1444

01:45:51,691 --> 01:45:58,000

like is that the sort of thing they want

us to get into as we implement Justice40.

1445

01:45:58,000 --> 01:45:59,428

I think you had a couple others?

1446

01:45:59,452 --> 01:46:01,587

Yvette Arellano: Yeah, I had two others.

1447

01:46:01,611 --> 01:46:03,707

So just to follow

up to what you said,

1448

01:46:03,731 --> 01:46:08,960

the reason I bring up the labs is

because under the last administration

1449

01:46:08,960 --> 01:46:11,360

that lab was moved to Tulsa--

1450

01:46:11,360 --> 01:46:14,505

Matthew Tejada: Ada-- somebody put

in my other chat, it was Ada, Oklahoma

1451

01:46:14,529 --> 01:46:16,848

which I think is close to Tulsa.

1452

01:46:16,872 --> 01:46:21,199

Yvette Arellano: Ada, there were,  
two chemical incidences just last month

1453

01:46:21,199 --> 01:46:25,268

the gulf coast and Texas is a  
disproportionately affected region

1454

01:46:25,292 --> 01:46:29,680

which is again why I'm bringing  
up the re-establishment of labs

1455

01:46:29,704 --> 01:46:34,800

in places that are disproportionately  
affected communities like Houston.

1456

01:46:34,800 --> 01:46:39,767

The next question I had is with  
so many funds having barriers

1457

01:46:39,791 --> 01:46:41,748

like you have to have a 501--

1458

01:46:41,772 --> 01:46:42,980

Matthew Tejada: Oh yeah--

1459

01:46:43,004 --> 01:46:46,633

Yvette Arellano: You have to have a  
send number to get EPA funds.

1460

01:46:46,657 --> 01:46:50,400

Will there be transparency  
over which organizations?

1461

01:46:50,400 --> 01:46:53,460

Like if Sierra Club receives  
a whole bulk of them,

1462

01:46:53,484 --> 01:46:56,800

will we be able to  
see that information?

1463

01:46:56,800 --> 01:47:02,419

And then the last question is, could you have  
a presentation that shows the information

1464

01:47:02,443 --> 01:47:04,320

so it's easier to follow?

1465

01:47:04,320 --> 01:47:09,388

Matthew Tejada: Yeah, I mean if you  
could shoot either to me or to Victoria

1466

01:47:09,412 --> 01:47:15,967

like we're always trying to strike a balance  
between how much stuff we put in powerpoint

1467

01:47:15,991 --> 01:47:20,028

and what we don't because I  
know for some folks they want more,

1468

01:47:20,052 --> 01:47:22,161

other folks want less.

1469

01:47:22,185 --> 01:47:28,147

So if there's a different kind of balance that  
you can give us a little more insight into

1470

01:47:28,171 --> 01:47:32,400

that you think would be  
good, we're always open to that.

1471

01:47:32,400 --> 01:47:37,219

And then, in terms of the tracking  
and like who's gonna get what,

1472

01:47:37,243 --> 01:47:41,840

yeah that's another  
thing that we are talking about.

1473

01:47:41,840 --> 01:47:49,219

We have at EPA made some progress that just  
being able to track when we spend money,

1474

01:47:49,243 --> 01:47:51,627

where is it actually  
touching the ground,

1475

01:47:51,651 --> 01:47:56,880

not who gets it but where is it then  
actually spent, like place of performance,

1476

01:47:56,880 --> 01:48:02,000

so that is something that I think  
there are several efforts at EPA,

1477

01:48:02,000 --> 01:48:05,440

both potentially of what we're  
putting on our strategic plan,

1478

01:48:05,440 --> 01:48:07,628

what we're thinking  
about in terms of Justice40

1479

01:48:07,652 --> 01:48:10,455

and also a lot of the things  
we've been thinking about

1480

01:48:10,479 --> 01:48:17,280

in terms of the implementation of the other  
big Executive Order 13985 on racial equity.

1481

01:48:17,280 --> 01:48:21,147

What you're asking for is  
featuring in all those conversations.

1482

01:48:21,171 --> 01:48:24,560

I'm not sure exactly  
where it's going to land yet,

1483

01:48:24,560 --> 01:48:29,520

it's not something that the EJ program  
will just get to decide for the agency

1484

01:48:29,520 --> 01:48:34,771

but that level of transparency and  
showing where'd the money go and who too

1485

01:48:34,795 --> 01:48:37,760

is definitely on the table.

1486

01:48:37,760 --> 01:48:41,308

And then with the NAAQS sessions or how  
a pollutant becomes an NAAQS,

1487

01:48:41,332 --> 01:48:47,280

what I'm asking from a grassroots  
voice here in Houston, Texas

1488

01:48:47,280 --> 01:48:50,480

disproportionately affected EJ community,

1489

01:48:50,480 --> 01:48:58,239

I'm asking your office, you and your office  
to host sessions that teach us about NAAQS,

1490

01:48:58,239 --> 01:49:03,360

things like that because I've been having  
to ask and beg attorneys all over the place

1491

01:49:03,360 --> 01:49:04,308

to teach me.

1492

01:49:04,332 --> 01:49:09,199

Matthew Tejada: We did one of those  
before you started working with Texas

1493

01:49:09,199 --> 01:49:10,808

but we can  
definitely do it again.

1494

01:49:10,832 --> 01:49:15,679

We work with our colleagues  
in the Office of Air Quality policies

1495

01:49:15,679 --> 01:49:19,520

and standards, they have a really great  
where they work with the community

1496

01:49:19,520 --> 01:49:22,607

they work with local experts and  
they'll do like a day and a half or a two,

1497

01:49:22,631 --> 01:49:26,287

two and a half day  
training on the Clean Air Act,

1498

01:49:26,311 --> 01:49:29,146

all of its parts, the  
NAAQS, all the other things,

1499

01:49:29,170 --> 01:49:30,800

so yeah we can absolutely--

1500

01:49:30,800 --> 01:49:34,728

Who's on that I can tag with  
making sure we follow up on that?

1501

01:49:34,752 --> 01:49:39,119

We'll make sure we  
follow up on that but--

1502

01:49:39,199 --> 01:49:40,639

Victoria Robinson: Yeah  
there's three people that we know

1503

01:49:40,639 --> 01:49:43,948

that's in the RTP Office that does that--  
coordinates those kind of calls.

1504

01:49:43,972 --> 01:49:50,400

Matthew Tejada: I see names in the attendee  
list from all parts of OAR other than that

1505

01:49:50,400 --> 01:49:54,351

but Gloria's on, Gloria Vaughn, if you  
could and Gerardo was on

1506

01:49:54,375 --> 01:49:56,487

he was the one that told me Ada, Oklahoma.

1507

01:49:56,511 --> 01:49:59,808

If we could make sure that we  
follow up with OAQPS please

1508

01:49:59,832 --> 01:50:03,440

about doing a Clean Air Act  
training in Houston again.

1509

01:50:03,440 --> 01:50:07,679

Victoria Robinson: And we'll also add the folks  
in RTP because they do those national calls,

1510

01:50:07,679 --> 01:50:09,288

Matthew Tejada: Yeah. Victoria  
Robinson: Educational calls.

1511

01:50:09,312 --> 01:50:12,480

Thank you very much, Yvette.

1512

01:50:12,480 --> 01:50:16,800

Our next person, we

have two left, Leslie Jackson.

1513

01:50:16,800 --> 01:50:21,520

If you could go ahead

and unmute your line.

1514

01:50:22,880 --> 01:50:25,981

Leslie Jackson: Thank you for the  
presentation and thank you for having me here.

1515

01:50:26,005 --> 01:50:30,480

I really enjoyed this and I

was in another EPA session.

1516

01:50:30,480 --> 01:50:36,560

My question is because of the growth  
of population in the United States

1517

01:50:36,560 --> 01:50:40,560

and more people it's  
in the chat question--

1518

01:50:40,560 --> 01:50:46,288

how many people are going to be  
allowed to have bottled water companies?

1519

01:50:46,312 --> 01:50:48,188

And is there a cap on it?

1520

01:50:48,212 --> 01:50:52,400

Because our table--  
water table is changing,

1521

01:50:52,400 --> 01:50:55,008

even though I'm in  
Minneapolis, Minnesota

1522

01:50:55,032 --> 01:50:58,252

and I know how many aquifers  
we have connected to

1523

01:50:58,276 --> 01:51:00,708

and this and that in the Midwest

1524

01:51:00,732 --> 01:51:05,042

but I just have a concern about

all these water bottle companies

1525

01:51:05,066 --> 01:51:08,748

pumping out the water and

affecting our natural resources,

1526

01:51:08,772 --> 01:51:11,679

not only the water

but the land itself.

1527

01:51:11,679 --> 01:51:14,320

That's my question.

1528

01:51:14,320 --> 01:51:16,000

Matthew Tejada: Thank you,

Leslie. Yeah that's a huge question,

1529

01:51:16,000 --> 01:51:17,200

it's an important question.

1530

01:51:17,224 --> 01:51:20,480

That question

goes way beyond EPA.

1531

01:51:20,480 --> 01:51:26,000

Unless I'm terribly mistaken, I do not  
believe like EPA plays a sliver in--

1532

01:51:26,000 --> 01:51:33,360

the thinking around that but that  
is a much bigger issue and decision

1533

01:51:33,360 --> 01:51:38,307

than anything that EPA can just  
decide on or take action on.

1534

01:51:38,331 --> 01:51:43,360

So I agree with you that's--  
it's an important question.

1535

01:51:44,320 --> 01:51:47,548

I would like for the federal government  
to make sure that everyone

1536

01:51:47,572 --> 01:51:51,818

in the United States has access to drinking  
water and doesn't have to buy bottles

1537

01:51:51,842 --> 01:51:55,760

and that all of it is safe  
for everyone to drink,

1538

01:51:55,760 --> 01:52:00,366

but there's a lot there-- drinking  
water is a huge issue obviously

1539

01:52:00,390 --> 01:52:04,602

as we continue to look at climate change  
and I don't think I wake up in the morning

1540

01:52:04,626 --> 01:52:07,040

without seeing another  
article about what is happening

1541

01:52:07,040 --> 01:52:10,719

out in Lake Mead in

Colorado and the west.

1542

01:52:11,920 --> 01:52:16,159

I think the country is in for a

reckoning and for a conversation

1543

01:52:16,159 --> 01:52:18,639

on how we handle drinking water.

1544

01:52:18,639 --> 01:52:22,178

Leslie Jackson: I have another one to

go with that clean water-- with the bottle

1545

01:52:22,202 --> 01:52:25,428

I'm sorry-- because of the

pop-- because of the plastics

1546

01:52:25,452 --> 01:52:30,947

that are being developed because of

it and we have incinerator in Minnesota

1547

01:52:30,971 --> 01:52:36,598

and nobody's regulating  
the pbs-- the CBPs in it,

1548

01:52:36,622 --> 01:52:41,268

so because like with the  
NAAQS and all that I'm saying

1549

01:52:41,292 --> 01:52:44,784

because of the growth and more  
plastics are being developed

1550

01:52:44,808 --> 01:52:46,639

and we're burning them,

1551

01:52:46,639 --> 01:52:50,507

are the emissions going to change to  
regulate the plastics in the air

1552

01:52:50,531 --> 01:52:53,520

and what we're breathing?

1553

01:52:54,880 --> 01:52:57,693

Matthew Tejada: I'm not sure if that's  
one of the things that is up right now

1554

01:52:57,717 --> 01:53:02,419

in terms of where we are  
with rules around incineration

1555

01:53:02,443 --> 01:53:04,400

or trash to waste.

1556

01:53:04,400 --> 01:53:09,360

Again, that's something that I think we  
would get our air colleagues on to discuss.

1557

01:53:09,360 --> 01:53:12,960

Exactly where we are with regulating  
emissions from those sorts of facilities

1558

01:53:12,960 --> 01:53:17,428

and what the horizon kind of  
looks like for either new regulations

1559

01:53:17,452 --> 01:53:22,639

or revising old regulations that might have  
been promulgated in previous administrations.

1560

01:53:22,639 --> 01:53:27,000

I think it's the best  
way I can answer that.

1561

01:53:27,840 --> 01:53:29,428

All right, we got we only  
have a couple minutes left,

1562

01:53:29,452 --> 01:53:31,456

we have one more  
person with their hand up.

1563

01:53:31,480 --> 01:53:34,560

Victoria Robinson: Yes  
and that is Denise Bennett.

1564

01:53:34,560 --> 01:53:41,800

If you can go ahead  
and ask your question.

1565

01:53:45,280 --> 01:53:49,480

Matthew Tejada: You still  
with us, Denise Bennett?

1566

01:53:54,800 --> 01:53:57,040

Victoria Robinson: While we wait for--

1567

01:53:57,040 --> 01:54:03,140

ahead and move the slide back and  
do a real quick update if you will, Matt.

1568

01:54:03,164 --> 01:54:12,745

Our upcoming webinar--  
engagement opportunities.

1569

01:54:12,769 --> 01:54:13,520

Matthew Tejada: I got it.

1570

01:54:13,520 --> 01:54:19,440

Victoria Robinson: All right, so on September  
15th, our EPA environmental justice webinar series

1571

01:54:19,440 --> 01:54:24,880

for tribes and indigenous peoples, it  
will focus on a the traditional knowledge

1572

01:54:24,880 --> 01:54:28,212

and from the standpoint of  
federal agency considerations,

1573

01:54:28,236 --> 01:54:31,568

it's going to focus on how federal agencies  
are considering traditional knowledge

1574

01:54:31,592 --> 01:54:33,068

and the implementation  
of their mission.

1575

01:54:33,092 --> 01:54:38,239

This is part one of two webinars,  
the second one's going to be in October,

1576

01:54:38,239 --> 01:54:43,520

that's going to provide a perspective  
from indigenous and tribal--

1577

01:54:43,520 --> 01:54:46,719

and tribes for their perspectives on TKA.

1578

01:54:46,719 --> 01:54:53,068

We also have initiated to-- in  
response to requests,

1579

01:54:53,092 --> 01:54:57,840

the ability to have a public  
office hours for our EJSCREEN,

1580

01:54:57,840 --> 01:55:02,487

on the EJ screening tool that many of  
you are already using, adopting.

1581

01:55:02,511 --> 01:55:05,589

And so that's first one is the  
next one, is scheduled October 20th,

1582

01:55:05,613 --> 01:55:10,239

they're going to be every two months  
and you can learn more by going to

1583

01:55:10,239 --> 01:55:16,560

epa.gov/ejscreen and that will give  
you information about how to access

1584

01:55:16,560 --> 01:55:19,199

those open hour calls.

1585

01:55:19,199 --> 01:55:26,800

The next one is a  
reminder that the brownfields--

1586

01:55:28,239 --> 01:55:35,840

the brownfields grant program has some job  
training grant opportunity applications to do

1587

01:55:35,840 --> 01:55:40,207

on October 5th in which  
there's looking to fund programs

1588

01:55:40,231 --> 01:55:47,679

that recruit train and place local  
unemployed and underemployed individuals.

1589

01:55:47,679 --> 01:55:56,960

I've lost my screen-- okay, individuals  
who can develop the skills needed to secure

1590

01:55:56,960 --> 01:56:00,468

employment across this broad spectrum of  
brownfields related activities.

1591

01:56:00,492 --> 01:56:02,639

I also want to add-- I  
didn't put a slide on here

1592

01:56:02,639 --> 01:56:08,052

but I forgot to add that we are-- we've  
already set up a schedule for outstanding--

1593

01:56:08,076 --> 01:56:11,188

for upcoming calls every two  
weeks for these things.

1594

01:56:11,212 --> 01:56:15,840

We will be posting them to our webpage, in  
fact they're already listed on our web page

1595

01:56:15,840 --> 01:56:20,560

and we'll provide links for registration  
and specific details as we move forward.

1596

01:56:20,560 --> 01:56:24,808

So every Tuesday between  
now and the middle of December,

1597

01:56:24,832 --> 01:56:30,427

we will have a call at from 2 to 4  
PM to address and focus on Justice40

1598

01:56:30,451 --> 01:56:37,830

as well some other broad EJ program  
announcements and things like that.

1599

01:56:37,854 --> 01:56:39,968

So I will turn it back  
over to you, Matt.

1600

01:56:39,992 --> 01:56:43,446

I think that is-- let me just check to

make sure we haven't forgot anything.

1601

01:56:43,470 --> 01:56:45,828

Oh you can talk about who  
our points of contact are.

1602

01:56:45,852 --> 01:56:46,400

Matthew Tejada: Yep.

1603

01:56:46,400 --> 01:56:51,427

So here's our important contact, so  
of course, again I'm the Director of OEJ

1604

01:56:51,451 --> 01:56:55,961

but Charles Lee, the Senior Policy  
Advisor on EJ and Victoria Robinson

1605

01:56:55,985 --> 01:56:58,080

whose voice you've been hearing,

1606

01:56:58,080 --> 01:57:03,360

they're both leading the stakeholder  
engagement around Justice40.

1607

01:57:03,360 --> 01:57:08,159

Nicolette Fertakis is the one that  
actually knows what in the world's going on,

1608

01:57:08,183 --> 01:57:13,040

she just feeds things into my head so  
that I pretend to know what's going on.

1609

01:57:13,040 --> 01:57:17,668

And then Patrick Beckley is also  
working very closely with Nicolette

1610

01:57:17,692 --> 01:57:22,168

on EPA's Justice40 implementation.

1611

01:57:22,192 --> 01:57:29,268

Again, lastname.firstname@epa.gov,  
you can get at any of these people

1612

01:57:29,292 --> 01:57:35,768

lastname.firstname@epa.gov and we'll be  
putting this presentation up on the website

1613

01:57:35,792 --> 01:57:40,448

so that people can find it, we'll make sure  
that Yu Ting slides are included

1614

01:57:40,472 --> 01:57:45,679

so you have the drinking water  
state revolving fund information as well.

1615

01:57:45,679 --> 01:57:49,008

And I think that's it for  
today, right Victoria?

1616

01:57:49,032 --> 01:57:51,119

Victoria Robinson: Yeah,  
I do believe so, so keep it--

1617

01:57:51,119 --> 01:57:54,908

As you can see, we  
have on the last slide,

1618

01:57:54,932 --> 01:58:01,233

I think there's a list-- a link to-- I think

there was a link to the website for these calls

1619

01:58:01,257 --> 01:58:04,488

but we will-- I'll be sending out  
an email message to everybody

1620

01:58:04,512 --> 01:58:08,075

that registered at every email address  
that we have among the participants

1621

01:58:08,099 --> 01:58:11,760

to send you the link directly  
to where this information,

1622

01:58:11,760 --> 01:58:13,728

the meeting materials can be found.

1623

01:58:13,752 --> 01:58:18,464

Matthew Tejada: Yeah and  
Christina Motilall is putting information

1624

01:58:18,488 --> 01:58:23,920

about the actual URLs in the chat,

so everyone can see those as well,

1625

01:58:23,920 --> 01:58:28,107

for these feature calls for other things  
we're putting all that in the chat as well,

1626

01:58:28,131 --> 01:58:33,454

so you can click right on to it, bookmark it or  
however you keep track of things in the internet.

1627

01:58:33,478 --> 01:58:37,147

Okay I think we're done, thank  
you everyone so much for joining.

1628

01:58:37,171 --> 01:58:39,908

Thank you Victoria and Christina  
and all the other folks helping out

1629

01:58:39,932 --> 01:58:42,808

in secret on the back end  
that everyone else can't see.

1630

01:58:42,832 --> 01:58:44,788

Thank you Nestor and Jamara.

1631

01:58:44,812 --> 01:58:49,840

And we will see everybody in a couple of weeks again.

1632

01:58:50,400 --> 01:58:53,560

Victoria Robinson: Thank you, everybody.